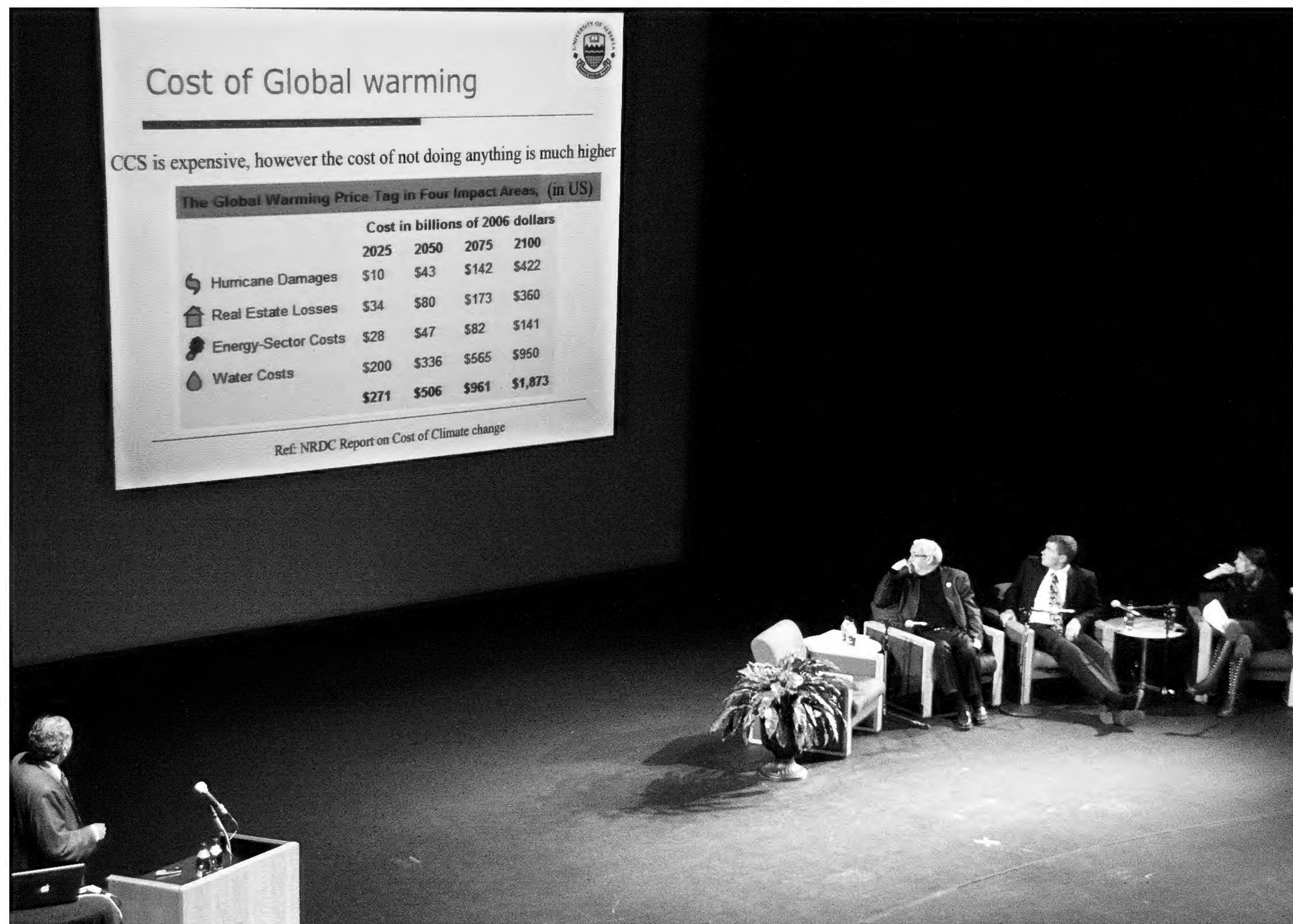


THE GATEWAY

volume C number 15 ♦ the official student newspaper at the university of alberta ♦ www.thegatewayonline.ca ♦ thursday, october 22, 2009

Carbon capture plans debated at first event of speaker series



KRISTA ALLAN
News Writer

As part of the Students' Union Sustainability Awareness Week, experts and students gathered Monday night in the Myer Horowitz Theatre to discuss their concerns, and the overwhelming cost of carbon capture projects.

Carbon capture and storage is part of the province's plan to reduce carbon emissions by 50 per cent by the year 2050. The panel included U of A professor Andrew Leach from the School of Business, and Jim Carter, chairman of the Alberta Carbon Capture and Storage Council. Representatives from the Sierra Club and the Faculty of Engineering were also in attendance.

The biggest issue for all presenters was the cost of CCS. In 2008, the government of Alberta set aside \$2 billion for carbon capture projects with the goal of reducing 5 million tonnes in annual carbon emissions by 2015. This amount appears to be merely a small drop in a large bucket considering the long-term implications of CCS.

"These things cost money to run, and so even if the plant is built, it's going to use energy to capture carbon, to pipeline it, and to inject it. The question has to be, from a business point of view, even if it's there, do I want to spend money to run it?" Leach argued. "There is going to have to be additional policies in place to make the incentive of how we're supposed to do this. [CCS] is a disposable business. It is something that will always cost money to run, so there is no exit strategy for government. We are always going to need a policy framework to make this work."

CRUNCHING THE NUMBERS A panel of experts discussed the pros and cons of a carbon capture program for the opening of the SU's discussion series.

PLEASE SEE **ENERGY** ♦ PAGE 5

Politically immersed expo opens on World Food Day

DEREK SCHUTZ
News Staff

Audiences gathered at Stanley A. Milner Library this past weekend for a serving of thought-provoking films that kicked off the North of Nowhere Expo, put on by the Edmonton Small Press Association.

This past weekend's film fest and fair trade fair focused on food security issues to coincide with World Food Day on October 16.

Upcoming events of the Expo will focus on a wide range of issues from Palestine to the invasion of Afghanistan to the prison industrial complex. But according to Lynette Bondarchuk, a board member of the ESPA who goes by the moniker Lyn X, the unifying theme is shining light on concerns that don't usually get attention.

"It's generally about media democracy; it's about presenting issues that we think aren't getting enough coverage in the mainstream media, and one of those issues is the issue of food security," Bondarchuk said. "We get a very one-sided corporate free-market view of everything that's going on."

This is something that the ESPA has been publicizing since its incorporation as a not-for-profit organization 11 years ago. Because of the open nature of the organization, many topics and issues will be covered in the Expo.

"Besides the food security film fest we also have a Palestine film fest, a prison industrial complex film fest, and then we just have all these other media democracy films as well," Bondarchuk said. "We define small press very broadly."

For example, one of the films shown this opening weekend, *Food Fight*, focuses on the importance of local sustainably grown food, and how food production has moved away from this.

"*Food Fight* is the story of food culture in the 20th century and how our way of growing food has changed into an industrial process," said Chris Taylor, the film's producer and director. "We've lost the ability to really process foods on a community-based level. We've been sacrificing taste, flavour, and nutrition in favour of convenience."

The argument that organic food



CLAUDINE CHAMPION

ADDRESSING THE ISSUES A variety of films will screen over the coming weeks, looking at an array of controversial topics.

is not only healthier, but also tastes better, was also reflected in some of the other films shown, such as *Fresh*, directed by Ana Sofia Joanes.

"Organic food means that it's natural. Most of the fruit and vegetables

that you buy at the local supermarket are considered to be conventionally grown and that means that they do have chemicals," Bondarchuk explained. "It tastes better, even if you're really not concerned about the

issue of chemicals."

On top of much of the criticism levelled against the current food production paradigm is a wealth of suggestions for increasing demand for organic food.

PLEASE SEE **FOOD DAY** ♦ PAGE 2

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Zombie bash

dEdmonton spreads Halloween hell on our fair city, and Mike Kendrick has the only shotgun.

FEATURE, PAGES 10-11



Kickin' for cash

Ever had the chance to boot a ball for a million dollars? Steve Olson is only one step away.

SPORTS, PAGE 19

B.C. Bound

There won't be a paper next Tuesday, as we *Gateway* folk reconvene after a weekend of newspaper conferencing in Kelowna. Look for our next paper hitting a newsstand near you on Thursday, October 29.

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Kepler and **Whitney**. The *Manitoban* is the Gateway's
sister paper, and we love her dearly, though "not in that
way." The Gateway's games of choice are *Borderlands*
and *Brütal Legend*.

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Chemistry Week displays everyday science

JONATHAN TAVES
Deputy News EditorEyes lit up and senses of wonder
stirred during demonstrations put
on by chemists at the Telus World of
Science this past weekend.Thirty-five chemists from around
the city signed up to take turns mea-
suring, pouring, and amazing as part
of a promotion for National Chemistry
Week, an event marked both in Canada
and the United States.“We organize lots of simple kitchen
chemistry experiments to show kids
the wonder of science, and chemis-
try in particular,” said Ian Phillips,
Chemistry Week coordinator for
Northern Alberta. “Currently, the
world’s view of chemistry is some-
what negative. If something contains a
chemical, people will say, ‘I don’t like
that because it’s got chemicals.’ We
want to take the blinders off people’s
eyes. Like all disciplines, like all ideas,
like all inventions, there’s good uses
and bad uses.”Phillips is a chemistry teacher at
Ross Sheppard high school, and a
former U of A chemistry researcher.The Chemical Institute of Canada
sponsors the display, and a variety of
other chemistry awareness promotion
efforts and lectures are hosted by the
organization throughout the year.“Later on this year we’re doing the
chemistry of whiskey. So we have lec-
tures on whiskey, tea, coffee. There was
one on the chemistry of beer, one on the
chemistry of chocolate,” Phillips noted.Chemistry Week concludes this
weekend as the display will be set up for
TWoS visitors once more on October 24.
In addition, a lecture by U of A chemis-
try professor Glen Loppnow will be held
at MacEwan University tonight.

Funding isn’t abundant, so organizers



SAM BROOKS

FIRE PROOF Phillips shows off one of the wonders of simple chemistry.of CIC events depend on people who are
generous with their time.“We have a lot of volunteers to share
the load,” Phillips said. “[The CIC is
made up of] profs at U of A, all the col-
leges, chemical professionals, people
who work in the oil industry, or the
drug labs in Edmonton.”Amelia Fitzsimmons, a U of A PhD
student, is one of the volunteers who
came to help out.“We’re not telling everyone every
single detail of the reaction behind
[each experiment], but maybe a kid
thinks that’s cool, and 12 years later
they’ll go to college and study chemis-
try, or math, or biology,” she said.

“It’s pretty fun, just a bit messy,”

said Kamal Firas, an 11th-grade vol-
unteer from Phillips’ class, as he hard-
ened white glue into a solid ball with
liquid nitrogen. “You see [spectators]
open their mouths and they’ll be like
‘What’s happening?’ The kids fight
over it, you know, ‘I want to touch
it.’”Phillips is most pleased that the
event offers the public an informal
way to learn more about an often-
misunderstood discipline, and have
fun in the process.“It’s a bit rag-tag, you see, after two
days of experiments. It’s a mess, let’s
face it,” he laughed. “[We want] to
persuade everybody that chemistry
has a lot of good to offer.”

STREETERS

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Engineering I

As you may be aware, sustainability awareness week is wrapping up Friday.

What have you done to reduce your environmental footprint?

I switched from real fur to fake fur.

I think I’ve literally done nothing. But I
was aware it was sustainability week. I
saw that band playing on Monday on the
stage[...] So I haven’t done anything, but I
support the cause.I honestly haven’t done very much. I’ve
always been environmentally conscious,
supporting the companies that really
deal with environmental backgrounds.I take the bus, and went down a shoe
size.

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Mixed reactions for Colbert fan’s website calling Alberta to join ‘Colbert Nation’

ALEXANDRIA ELDRIDGE
CUP Alberta and Northern Bureau Chief

Dan Zinman wants Stephen Colbert to become the supreme leader of the province of Alberta, and to rename it Colbert.

In Colbert, all use of French and Canadian English would be abolished, swift military action would be taken against Saskatchewan, and all university school mascots would be renamed the Colbeagle Eagles. These propositions and more can be found on the Citizens for Colbert Coalition website colberta.com, which was created by Zinman, a 23 year-old Torontonion.

A fan of *The Colbert Report*, Zinman stated that the site began as a funny idea but was unused for several years until he graduated from university and had time to develop it further.

“I actually launched the site on Canada Day, which I thought was appropriate for an American takeover,” Zinman said.

Zinman has received a wide variety of reactions from Albertans. There have been some particularly negative reactions from the group Albertans for Alberta, who formed with the purpose of shutting down the Zinman’s website.

“Maybe they feel that other campaigns like this have worked in the past for Colbert, so they thought that this one might actually work too,” Zinman said.

The leader of Albertans for Alberta, Joseph Reimenschneider, declined an interview but said by email correspondence that “this needs to end.”

“[The Colbert website] is only working to spread hate speech and anti-Alberta sentiment,” Reimenschneider wrote.

Zinman maintains that the sole reason he chose to develop the site for the province of Alberta was because it fit with Colbert’s comedy.

“This is a little closer to home and it’s a very conservative province,



SUPPLIED

THREAT DOWN Some Albertans don’t find Zinman’s joke to be in good taste.

which ties in with his fake punditry,” Zinman said.

Zinman did say that the site is all in fun, and the only underlying political message is directed at all of Canada.

“There was this whole debate on whether or not they were going to have the 19th election in five years. Canadian politics is like a big joke, so why not spoof it a little further? If there were to be an underlying message, it would be that,” Zinman said.

The site is not affiliated in any way with the Comedy Central or *The Colbert Report*. Zinman has attempted to contact Stephen Colbert himself, but has not yet received a response. Regardless, part of the Zinman’s goal is to lobby to have additional things, other than the province, named after Colbert.

“They’re making a new bridge in Calgary and they’re looking for someone to name it after,” Zinman said “There’s just different opportunities that present themselves and I’ll try to

jump on them.”

He has put a lot of effort into making colberta.com interesting and funny. There are sections on why Colbert should be the Albertan leader — “Why Stephen?” — and a large section on “Better Know A-Lberta,” which contains funny facts about every riding in the province.

“I think there’s a lot of hidden gems throughout there, and even for a lot of people visiting [the site] from Alberta, you might see something near your hometown that you never really noticed before because you only looked at the main page,” Zinman said.

He said that he has received positive support from some Albertans, and hopes that people continue the battle.

“There’s a push to mention Stephen Colbert in the new Bible passages for the updated King James Version, so I mean, if they can do that, they can certainly give him a province here.”

Austen and blues book tributes U of A prof

BETH STORHEIM
News Staff

People may be a bit puzzled when they spot the new book, *Jane Austen Sings the Blues* on shelves, wondering where exactly the author and the music genre intertwine.

But the title is a nod to the two passions of the late Bruce Stovel, for whom the book was compiled as a tribute. Stovel’s passing in 2007, just six months after retiring from his position as English Professor Emeritus at the University of Alberta, was a great shock to many. Some felt that a special form of remembrance was needed.

Nora Foster Stovel, U of A English professor and Stovel’s widow, spoke about the production of the book.

“About two weeks after my husband died, [Linda Cameron, head of the U of A Press] said she’d like to get together with me to talk about putting together a book for Bruce. I said, ‘Well that’s great, because I want to talk about the same thing,’” she said.

As it turned out, Foster Stovel and Cameron each had very different ideas about what the book would be like.

“[Cameron’s] idea was the book we just published, *Jane Austen Sings the Blues*, which is a miscellany in honour of Bruce. My idea was a collection of Bruce’s own essays,” Foster Stovel said.

Cameron, who knew Stovel for years before his death, further explained the reason behind her idea for the book:

“Bruce Stovel was an Austen scholar and a blues aficionado. Bringing together his two passions seemed an appropriate manner in which to pay tribute to Bruce,” she said.

But Foster Stovel didn’t abandon her own vision for a memorial.

“That [book] actually is in the works, and it’s going to be called *Jane Austen and Company*. It will include a dozen essays by Bruce Stovel, half of them on Jane Austen, and half of them on her company of predecessors and successors, mostly comic novelists. And that is going to be published by the University of Alberta Press, hopefully in 2010,” Foster Stovel explained.

Foster Stovel also edited *Jane Austen Sings the Blues*, but the book is truly a collaborative effort, featuring contributions from family, friends, students and associates of the late Stovel. It includes essays from noted Austen scholars Juliet McMaster and Peter Sabor, as well as poetry and recollections from Doug Barbour and Heidi L. Janz, among many others.

Of course, given the subject matter, words are not all this book has to offer.

“My son [Grant Stovel co-produced] the CD that comes in the back of the book. The blues music has



AARON YEO

SENSE AND SENTIMENTALITY The book was compiled by Foster Stovel.

received a very good response from radio stations and musicians,” Foster Stovel said. The CD features some of Stovel’s favourite blues performers, including Maurice John Vaughn, and Ann Rabson.

Foster Stovel pondered what her husband’s reaction might be to the fusing of his two passions.

“It’s something he certainly would not have done for himself, being a very modest person,” she said. “I think he’d be delighted with it.”

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Sustainability Awareness Week spreads green across U of A campus



PETE YEE, NEIL KUEFLER

WEEK OF GREEN Trina Innes, (left) newly hired director of the U of A's Office of Sustainability stands by a sustainability poster in SUB. Sustainability Awareness Week concludes on Friday, October 23.

SEAN STEELS
Senior News Editor

Students may have noticed some extra green around campus this week as Sustainability Awareness Week began Monday.

The event was coordinated between several campus organizations, including the Students' Union, the Environmental Coordination Office of Students, the Campus Sustainability Coalition, and the School of Energy and the Environment.

According to ECOS Director Louise Veillard, this year's event saw an increase in not only the amount of services and information presented, but in the numbers of event coordinators and volunteers involved.

"This year has been a really big expansion for Sustainability Awareness Week. We just trained volunteers on Monday and now have 99," she said.

"There's a lot of student interest in [sustainability] right now, and we've seen more volunteers

coming every single year to ECOS."

This year a variety of green displays and activities are being offered, including information booths throughout Quad, a showcase of the University's hybrid vehicles for staff and student rental, electronics round-ups, the launch of ECOS' new reusable plate program, and events like Wednesday night's Party with a Purpose at the Starlite Room.

SAW has grown along with increased public cognizance of the necessity for environmentally sound practices — something the University has become increasingly aware of.

The 2010 College Sustainability Report Card was released on October 7 for the fourth consecutive year, giving the U of A a grade of B+. No Canadian university achieved a grade higher than B+.

"The University has been involved with the study for three of those four years, and we're pleased to see the U of A has shown steady improvement over those years," said Chryslin Pais, a communications fellow for the report.

The evaluation of postsecondary businesses is

evolving with the current understanding of sustainability, encompassing more areas in which institutions leave an environmental footprint.

And Canadian institutions are catching up to their American counterparts, Pais said. Some of the trends picked up by the study were an increase in schools' spending on things like sustainable infrastructure and addressing transportation-based greenhouse gas emissions, offering incentives for carpools and public transit use.

The establishment of sustainability offices and the allocation of staff towards those centres also scored high for the U of A, with the recent approval of a three-year U-Pass plan by Edmonton City Council, and the establishment of the Office of Sustainability in 2008.

According to Students' Union Vice President (Student Life) Nick Dehod, this comprehensive aesthetic to the sustainability movement is widespread and not going anywhere. After visiting Indianapolis, Indiana in late September for the Greening of the Campus conference, he

explained the direction environmental practices are moving.

"What's really interesting is that compared to our peers [in the United States], they don't have environmental services [to the degree we do up here]," he elaborated. "We're really unique in that we do provide something like this to students. Other universities don't necessarily have an office of sustainability."

Green practices aren't a temporary fixture, either, Dehod explained. This year, SAW has been beneficial in presenting students green lifestyle choices and bringing together campus' disparate environmental groups for year-round partnerships.

"This year, we've worked together with other campus groups, so we've created something that provides students with new opportunities and increased resources to deal with these issues," he said.

"It'll be really exciting to see what that will translate into for students as we move ahead."

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Former president Bush ignites protest with visit

SEAN STEELS
Senior News Editor

While over 200 protesters greeted George W. Bush’s arrival at the Shaw Conference Centre on Tuesday, a few University of Alberta students took the chance to make a similar statement down the side of one of campus’ most prominent buildings.

The words “Arrest Bush” hung visibly from the side of the Tory Building’s upper facade throughout the day. And although the students who hung the sign were not directly affiliated with the groups that gathered at the Shaw, they too protested against the taxpayer expense resulting from Bush’s visit, and human rights violations they claim the former president is guilty of.

“One of the reasons we’re rallying against him and doing this initiative against him is that Canadian taxpayers are paying half a million dollars for the security for his four or five engagements in Calgary, Montreal, Edmonton, and Saskatoon,” said Siavash Saffari, a political science PhD student.

Not forgotten in the fiscal worries, Bush was also under fire yesterday from protesting groups such as the Edmonton Coalition Against War and Racism and the Palestine Solidarity Network for his human rights record, predominantly for his government’s involvement in the Abu Ghraib prison scandal, which began in 2004.

“We have a standard for war crimes and we apply it to some people. For example, we apply it to Augusto Pinochet from Chile, Omar al-Bashir from Sudan, or Slobodan Milosevic from Yugoslavia,” Saffari said. “We’re saying we should apply the same principle consistently, which would apply to anyone who commits war crimes under international law.”

Saffari backed up his claims with the accusations of various human rights organizations against Bush.

“By all accounts, if you look at the definition of war crime, he definitely fits that definition,”



PETEYEE

PRESIDENTIAL ARREST Protesters feel some actions of the Bush administration could be war crimes.

Saffari continued. “Amnesty International thinks that he has committed war crimes, Human Rights Watch thinks he’s committed war crimes. Lawyers Against the War think he’s committed war crimes.”

Both Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch singled out Abu Ghraib as an egregious human rights violations on the part of the Bush government in 2005, and Lawyers Against the War went so far as to ask the Canadian government in an open letter to the prime minister that Bush be barred from Canada, and have also requested the RCMP war crimes program investigate Bush.

Bush’s final visit will be in Montreal this afternoon, after stopping over Saskatoon on October 21.

Alternative carbon plans discussed

ENERGY ♦ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

This would have to take into consideration not only the initial costs of province-wide CCS, such as the cost of upgrading older facilities and building new pipelines to transport the carbon from industry to storage containers, but also the long-term costs of maintenance and further research.

Jim Carter, who spoke in favour of carbon capture, argued that there’s also money to be made from CCS, in that the stored carbon can be used for enhanced oil recovery. The stored carbon can be injected into older well sites in order to push more oil to the surface, making it easier to extract and providing an edge to Alberta oil producers.

“Traditional production only takes about 10–20 per cent of the oil available out of the ground. If we use EOR, we increase that to 35–40 per cent,” he stated.

Carter also discussed the sum of \$2 billion. He agreed that while it is a good start, CCS is an expensive and ongoing project that will require continued government support.

“It’s going to take sustained effort for these projects to get operational by 2015, and after that it’s going to take continued financial support from the Alberta government to get to the point where this becomes commercialized technology,” he argued in his closing remarks.

All presenters agreed that CCS was going to be a very costly operation for future generations of Albertans, but they questioned this as the only option to reduce greenhouse gas. Alternative energy sources, and increased green research were also discussed as more cost-effective options to reduce Alberta’s carbon footprint.

“The danger of focusing on a policy of technology as opposed to an outcome is that it may not be the best way to achieve emissions reduction. By concentrating on one area we may be ignoring other opportunities,” Leach concluded.

The debate began the SU’s yearly panel and debate series. January 28 will be the next event, and will be on creationism and evolution.



Got the time?

Why not volunteer for the Gateway?

Section meetings start next week, where you can learn the tricks of the writing trade, refine your illustration skills, or even snap some snazzy photos.

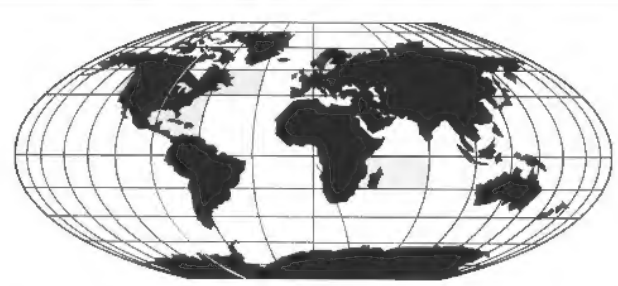
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FACT:

Discordianism is a religion based on the idea that chaos is the only real force. Followers hold that disorder and order are mere illusions, which makes one wonder how they ever got organized enough to create a religion.

FACT:

Though we try to be as tolerant as possible at Gateway news, we're not accepting discordians at this time. We look for writers who believe they can pull the chaos together, and form a story everyone can understand.

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Canadian musicians concerned that funding cuts hurt culture

JOSHUA BROWN
The Dalhousie Gazette

HALIFAX (CUP) — The Canadian Music Fund will be infused with new cash come April 2010, but at the expense of a specialized program that supports non-commercial artists in such genres as jazz, classical, and folk.

The restructuring of the fund, announced in July, will include an extra \$9.85 million a year, bumping the fund's annual budget to \$27.6 million until 2014. But it eliminates funding to the Canadian Musical Diversity program, which has helped pay for the production and distribution of specialized non-commercial music.

The federal government has said the changes will protect the financial stability and digital shift of Canada's arts and culture sector.

Eligible recipients of the fund are Canadian artists, ensembles or bands, independent record producers, incorporated record companies, and record distribution companies.

Heritage Canada said the changes will make more money available to commercial artists with international recognition. The money will help increase the visibility of Canadian music on the Internet and in international markets, said James Moore, minister of Canadian heritage and official languages when he announced the decision in July.

"The music industry generates billions of dollars of economic activity every year. Our government is proud to offer greater stability in these uncertain economic times by stabilizing resources dedicated to Canadian music, while helping maintain thousands of jobs," Moore stated in a press release.

But some industry leaders are not confident that the changes will be for the best.

"The council is supposed to take care of people that are valuable to the culture, hugely valuable, like classical and jazz," said Kasia Morrison, communications director at JazzEast, the non-profit group that organizes the Halifax-based Atlantic Jazz Festival.

"By removing money for specialized records, they've given up whatsoever on any kind of way for local musicians



PETE YEE

SIX STRING'N' Non-commercial music, like that performed at the Edmonton Folk Music Festival, could be affected by the federal funding reallocation.

to get their music out."

"[The axed diversity fund is] probably one of the most important fundamental programs we have in Canada for music," said Ken MacKay, president of the Atlantic Federation of Musicians.

"If you're a growing band, you go for anything you can get, and a lot of those bands could use that money when they're trying to make a name for themselves," MacKay said.

Moore said the changes to the fund were made in consultation with musicians and producers.

But Adam Fine, the former executive director of JazzEast, said the musicians he knows were in unanimous opposition of the program.

"I can't imagine any musician would be in support of that decision," he said.

Fine doesn't think the cuts will end any careers but said it will make things harder for independent musicians.

"Budgets are going to be considerably

smaller," Fine said. "You're not going to see people spending \$10,000 on a record."

"You're going to see musicians taking more risks on themselves," he said. "Musicians always have ways of getting projects made."

Halifax musician Paul Cram has applied for and received money from the program.

"I can't apply any more," he said. "I usually apply to make records."

His group, the Paul Cram Quintet, made a record in 2001 and played the *Jazz em Agosto* Festival in Lisbon, Portugal. They also toured Canada.

"Without that record that would have been rather difficult," he said.

"That particular program is very valuable in terms of creating a Canadian profile abroad."

The Support to Sector Associations program, which traditionally provides funding to industry associations, will also cut in April 2010.

Youth employment bleak, but not hopeless

MADELINE COLEMAN
The Link (Concordia University)

MONTREAL (CUP) — The latest youth unemployment numbers from Statistics Canada paint a picture for youth that's bleaker than reality, claims Iris Unger of Youth Employment Services Montreal.

The province of Quebec, for instance, has "lost a lot of jobs in the past," said Unger, executive director of the non-profit organization. "I don't think it's that we're not gaining jobs. It's just that we're more stable."

StatsCan's latest employment numbers, released October 9, reported that although employment increased nationally for the second consecutive month — with 31,000 jobs created in September — there was little improvement.

Canada's unemployment rate fell marginally from 8.7 per cent in August to 8.4 per cent last month.

The unemployment rate for young Canadians, however, currently sits at 15.1 per cent.

Youth unemployment continued to increase over the summer months, with StatsCan reporting employment losses of 3.4 per cent since March. StatsCan defines youth as people between the ages of 15 and 24.

Unger, whose organization provides support to young people seeking English-language jobs, said this summer's rainy weather and decreased tourism created a "double whammy" that made it difficult to find seasonal work.

"A lot of areas where young people get jobs were affected," she said.

David Fuller, a professor at Concordia University's department of economics who specializes in labour economics, pointed out that youth "tend to be the hardest hit" by a recession.

"One simple reason is they tend to be employed in lower wage entry-level jobs, which also tend to be the first jobs firms cut," he explained.

The only demographic StatsCan cited as having lost more jobs than young people were men aged 25 to 54, with 211,000 positions lost since

October 2008.

"The impression that baby boomers would be leaving their jobs and leaving openings for young workers has shifted," Unger said, pointing out that older people have become more concerned with holding on to their positions.

"There isn't as much movement in the job market."

Fuller cited a "crowding-out effect," occurring when older, more experienced workers are unable to find work in their chosen fields.

"The more skilled workers are unemployed, the more they tend to fill lower-wage jobs as the recession persists," he said. "This crowds out the younger group which normally fills these positions."

Unger nonetheless insisted that young people will find jobs if they remain open-minded about work opportunities.

"The reality hasn't changed that much," she claimed. "It's just the impression of a bad job market that's causing anxiety."

Sesame can't open every closed door

FINDING SUITABLE MEDIUMS WITH WHICH TO educate myself on global crises while growing up in the mid-'90s was, at times, quite the endeavour for this youngster. Fortunately, the one place I could always go when I needed an unwavering life lesson or poignant social commentary, whilst still enjoying my cookies and juice, was *Sesame Street*. It was down this colourful alleyway of wonder and amusement that I became captivated by both the struggles of a blue-haired monster battling cookie addiction and the communal tolerance and acceptance of a vampiric mathematician. What other street can offer such diversity?

The long-running children's program continues to edutain kids from all walks of life, and is now searching for more worldly avenues through which to assert their global message, brought to you by the letter "P" — which, given the latest turn of events, stands for "Peaceful conflict resolution."

Gary Knell, president of the Sesame Workshop (the Street's parent company), announced on Wednesday that his organization is aiming to have the new episodes of the show broadcast to children in the volatile Gaza Strip — currently occupied by the Islamic fundamentalist group Hamas — within the next year. Parts of the new instalments of the series slated for production would be based in Ramallah, the administrative capital of the Palestinian Authority, and feature two new Israeli Muppet characters, who were unveiled at yesterday's press conference in Jerusalem.

The obvious intent of the new shows, in Knell's words, will be to "promote self-esteem for Palestinians," and the move is being made because "the children there are in need of positive programming in light of the circumstances over the past couple years."

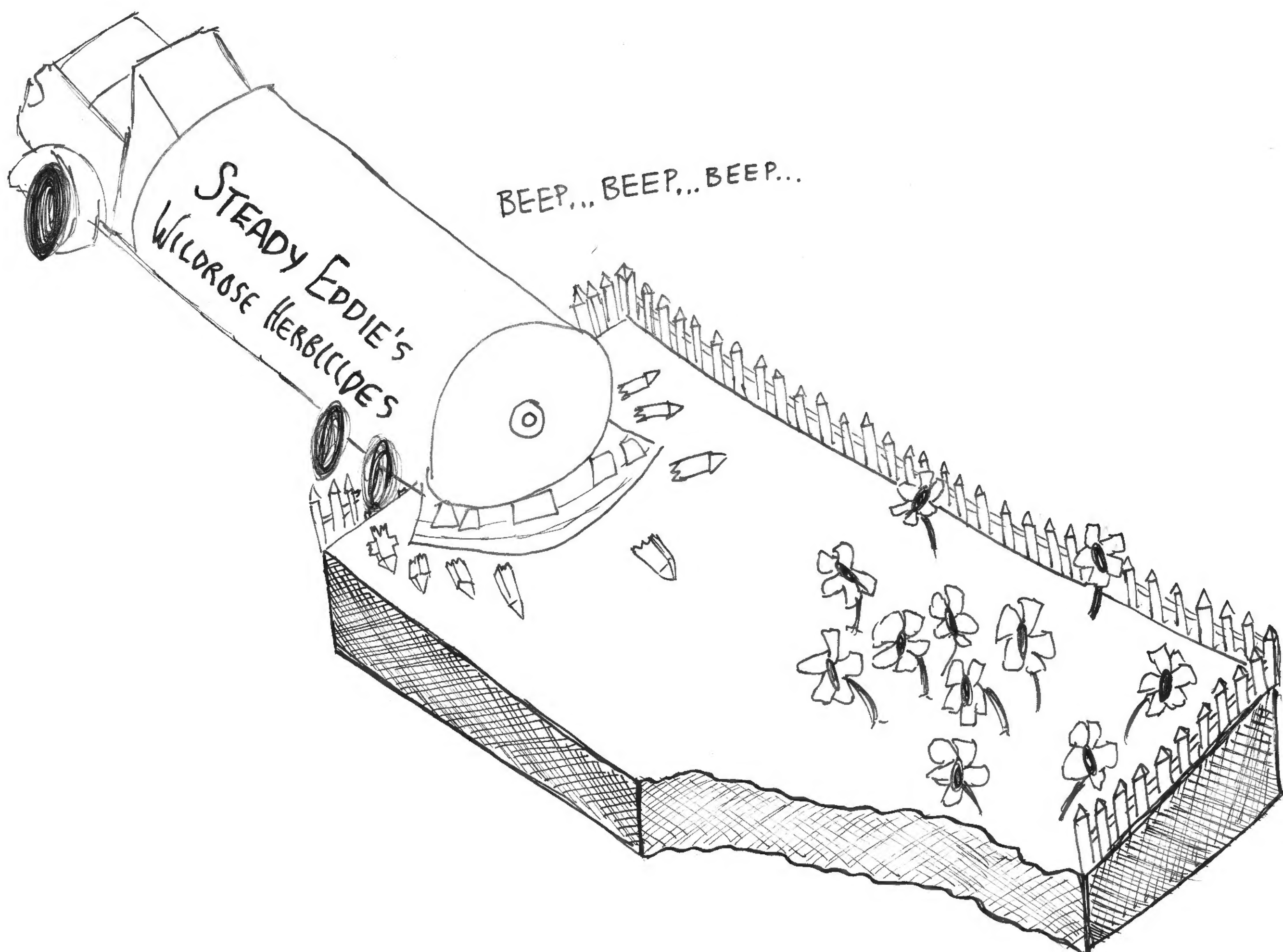
Promoting *Sesame Street* as a means of influencing young minds in a region torn apart by conflict is, at very least, a commendable act on the part of the Sesame Workshop. Unfortunately, that's all it is — an act. While their hearts are in the right place, *Sesame Street* simply doesn't have enough steam behind it to act as an instrument for any serious kind of "conflict resolution." I trust the program to teach young kids the alphabet, say, or how to count to 12 through the usage of a cartoon pinball machine. But presenting children with larger, more socially conscious subject matter only poses a greater challenge because not everyone in the show's target demographic will necessarily fully grasp the concepts and intent being presented to them.

I suppose one positive that can be taken from this announcement is that the potential presence of *Sesame Street* on Palestinian airwaves will aid in curtailing some of the effect that cartoons and children's shows currently presented by the Hamas-run network have on the youth. Many of the shows appeal to kids by exercising traditional symbols of children's programs, like cute animals and humans with cartoonish characteristics, but use them to instead promote concepts like martyrdom and rejection of Western ideals. *Sesame Street*, while occasionally antiquated and inane, isn't particularly offensive or maligning of other cultures; if it suggests a possibility for inserting more diverse programming into another culture, then it's an interesting option to permit to children. But just as it won't act as a social force for wrong, it's doubtful it will function as a social force for good, either.

And on the flipside, the addition of a pair of Israeli muppets won't automatically reorient the benign cultural touchstones already present. So while one might look at Oscar the Grouch and see a green, trash-candwelling derelict deeply immersed in an economic plight as a lovable grouch, the children of the Gaza Strip perhaps won't. Whichever balance is chosen, the Street still looks to be coming up short.

Using an educational program that otherwise acts of a means of teaching basic learning skills and preparing youngsters for grade school can only be stretched so far — that likely doesn't constitute any serious resolution to an issue that dates back long before the show's concept was initially established. Knell and company need to realize that, realistically, the best-case scenario to come of this will be that youngsters in the Gaza Strip will now have a more pleasant alternative in their children's programming.

NICK FROST
Managing Editor



DAVID JOHNSTON

letters TO THE eds

Postsecondary better through beer goggles

I couldn't disagree more with the sentiment expressed in "Don't drink and write, or you're a study idiot — midterms and alcohol don't mix." (October 20) Students, don't be fooled by the article's pithy title — behind its seduction lies unabashed puritanical propaganda. As we hurtle at light speed towards an inevitable global crisis — sailing on the Good Ship Capitalism — the University has a responsibility to prepare students for the bleak and horrible future.

The University must ensure that its students are able to succeed while on alcohol and drugs, so that they can be the best that they can be over the course of a lifetime which will probably require complete numbness. These drug cocktails will become an integral part of our future, and to get our tolerance up, we might as well start drinking, smoking, and injecting them now. Even if it means we do them during a midterm.

Alas, we must not shirk our responsibilities in the face of progress. Bottoms up.

DAVE SCOTT
Philosophy III

LETTERS FROM THE ARCHIVES

Parking and recreation

Nothing personal, but I hate permit holders. Also pedestrians, one-hour parking signs and red Datsun 280-Zs. Unreasonable? Allow me to explain.

You know how first year students are; well, I'm no exception. Laughing off rumours of limited parking, I undauntedly (see Webster's under "fool") pioneered the wild frontier of campus parking nonetheless.

After checking umpteen parking lots which house X number of cars each, I soon discovered mine was 'X plus one.' By now I was hallucinating — "All full except for Permit Holders" and smirking parking lot attendants kept flashing before my eyes. Only to frustrate me further, there was always, inevitably, the book-laden pedestrian wishing to cross in front of me, just as my potential space was being taken. In exasperation, I finally considered that maybe — just maybe — I would have a little trouble finding a parking space. So I left the car in a one-hour space — not good for long, but enough time to get out and calm my nerves.

After a soothing cup of hot

chocolate (RATT was closed) I returned to my car to find it wedged tightly, somewhat like the mob of backpacked students from Humanities edging down those spacious HUB stairways between classes. The front bumper of my precious little red Toyota was being intimate with the back bumper of a (expletive deleted) Datsun 280-Z heap of metal.

Now, it's no reflection on my driving ability that after 25 minutes, I was still there. After all, I had a whole four inches of manoeuvring space. Being the resourceful person I am, I politely asked my passenger to leave the car and help me manually carry my car out of the space. (Too bad it wasn't one of those convenient "tote-a-Toyota" folding models; I could have stuffed it in my backpack and taken it to class.) Just then, to increase my embarrassment, a rather studious-looking chap came by and asserted that I could drive right out of that space, if I wanted to, theoretically speaking. Just like another law of nature, when you say it won't work and someone is watching, it'll work.

So, you ask, where did I eventually park my car? You've all heard of Southgate?

I was warned — you told me so and I scoffed. This is my public declaration of defeat to all you I-told-you-sos. I raise a white flag to smirking parking lot attendants

everywhere. I pledge allegiance to the ETS forever.

I'd like to think that you've learned something from my bad judgement, but, even more, I look forward to watching some other brave fool desperately searching for a parking space. Then it's my turn to have a malicious vengeful smirk on my face.

"MARIE CURIE"
2 October, 1979

Letters from the Archives is a semi-regular feature where the Gateway runs historical letters that we feel are of particular importance—or are just really hilarious. Also when everyone out in readerland slows down sending us content, which for some reason happens around midterms. Come on, folks! Just because you're tired and study-crazed doesn't mean that you can just give up on your letters page. Shame. For shame.

Letters to the editor should be dropped off at SUB 3-04, sent via paper aeroplane or sent straight to letters@gateway.ualberta.ca. Online comments may occasionally be printed. When, you know, we get some.

Letters should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the author's name, program, year of study, student ID number, and a strong rasher of vodka to be considered for publication.

The Gateway is hiring a Circulation Public Affairs Liaison (Circulation PAL)

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- sorting incoming newspapers and other publications and displaying them neatly in the *Gateway* offices, and
- coordinating collation of the year's issues of the *Gateway* for the production of bound editions at the end of the year.

The successful applicant will:

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- be registered in at least one course for credit during each of the Fall and Winter terms.

The position requires ten hours per week (less if you're speedy), runs until 30 April, 2010. Salary is \$500 per month. We are seeking to fill this position immediately, and will close the position as soon as we find an acceptable candidate.

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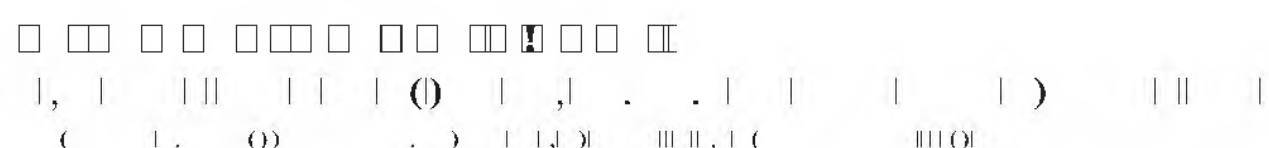
BY MARTY CHAN



"An unforgettable experiment in fear and dread. This is one show that's not for the faint hearted."
— The List, Edinburgh Festival Guide

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Offering up a few party favours

The latest fledgling political groups have nothing on the National Jedi Party



OPINION
STAFF

Group
Commentary

is ramping up his campaign for the spring, with the slogan "If a Conservative back-bencher can do it, why can't I?" To which citizens everywhere are responding: "Yes you can, Giggles. Yes you can."

Hannah Cochran
The Aren't We Hipsters? Party

Parliament, huh? You might be wondering what we're doing here, which is a fair question. Truth is, we got this place mixed up with the Animal Collective show, and are pretty much too drunk to change venues now, but despite what common social assumption might have you believe, there's a lot of stuff in the world we care about — or, at least, we'll complain about.

Firstly, there has got to be a way to regulate bands from getting too well-known. I mean, the first time I heard a New Young Pony Club song on a car commercial I pretty much wanted to punch someone. That shit has to be illegal, right? It's a fucking travesty. Also, more free booze. I think that argument speaks for itself.

The biggest problem we want to deal with is what we're going to call ourselves. When we first got here, we thought The Tercera Division, but about half an hour ago we had a pretty intense schism and now we're either going to be Niko Tesla or Kazakhstan After-School Beach Party. Also, we pretty much won't ever be able to choose a prime minister, because let's face it — as soon as someone would be liked enough to be selected, the popularity backlash would slap them upside the head so fast, they wouldn't be able to find their Wayfarers for a month, in a move we call "the Diablo Cody." Still, after all the fucked-up shit that's happening courtesy of sincere leadership and politics, maybe what the world needs is a little irony.

Aaron Yeo
The Pastafarian Party

The United States has a black president. Germany has a female chancellor. And a certain North Korean dictator who doesn't have an impressive stature is running a communist country. The world is evolving, and gone is the day of tall, mustache-wielding men of power. Where do we go from here? Why, we take the path of non-human entities and elect the marvelous Flying Spaghetti Monster to the head of state.

Leading the Pastafarian Party, the magnificent mess of Italian noodles and meaty sauce is determined to represent Canada on the international level. While you will never know for sure what the Pastafarian party is doing, there are certain details that the public will be aware of, such as the massive government funding and facilities dedicated to building an army of invisible pink unicorns. That's your tax dollars at work.

Our leader and his tomato-based policies will also work hard to support piracy. Not the "sit-at-home-and-download-music" piracy, but rather of the "stealing-shit-on-the-high-seas" variety. In a perfectly valid and logical effort to combat global warming and climate change, grants will be given to seaway pirates to encourage maritime looting.

The finer points of the party's manifesto will be kept in secret, and will ultimately foster debate filled with flawed logic and fallacies, leaving the population unsure but deeply interested. Although the FSM is indeed the

greatest collection of Italian carbohydrates and kosher meatballs, at times it may seem like he doesn't even exist. But remember — when you do things right, people won't be sure you've done anything at all.

Melissa Bentz
The Senior Advocacy Party

You know what the current political arena is sorely lacking? A party devoted to Senior Advocacy. Our senior citizens form the bedrock of our society with their wealth of experience and knowledge acquired over decades and decades of life. These are the people who raised us and taught us everything we need to know as adults, and yet many find themselves abandoned to so-called "retirement homes," alone and forgotten in their twilight years.

As a society, we need to stand up and say no more! We need to treat our elders with all of the love, care, and respect we would wish for ourselves in their place. Kids today simply have no appreciation for the hardships of aging. Why, there was a time when people not only had to go to school, uphill both ways and through a blizzard, but had to get home on time to plant a whole field and raise a barn before bedtime. Which reminds me of the time Bobbie Feldstein couldn't bear even one more meatloaf dinner, so he took Abby down to the river. Did you know, that river flooded every spring? There was simply no way to keep the beavers out of the garden thatch, and that was the year the maple trees were ravaged, simply ravaged. Oh, back to my point. And that's why you shouldn't drink lemonade before bed.

Evan Mudryk
The National Jedi Party

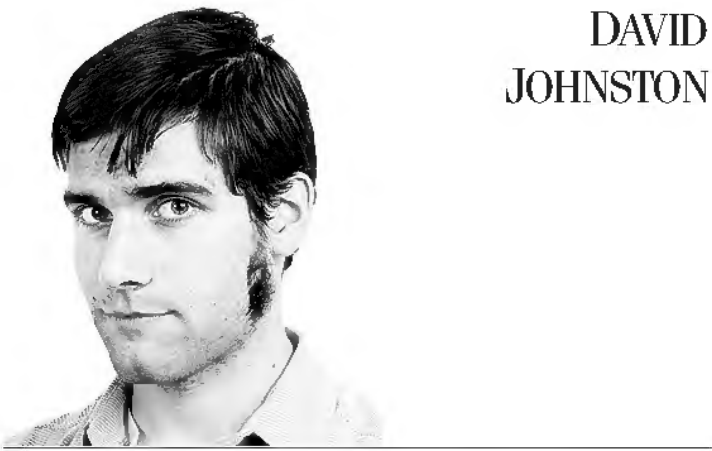
With an already surprising number of Canadians identifying themselves as members of the Jedi Academy, a fringe political party that would represent those of us who believe in the force, or turn a blind eye to studies that disprove the existence of midichlorians, is really a no brainer.

The NJP, even with only a few seats, would bring back accountability to Parliament. After all, these are people who carry around futuristic laser swords at all times and can choke you to death with their freaking *minds*. Stephen Harper, clearly a weak-minded individual, would be immediately susceptible to their Jedi mind-trickery. "You want to restore funding to the arts," say, or "These aren't the illegal substances you're looking for." Let's see Layton or Ignatieff do that!

There are naturally a few problems that come with a Jedi political party. You run the risk of an opposing Sith party coming in and orchestrating a civil war between the Galactic Republic (Ontario, Western Canada, Maritime provinces) and the Separatists (Quebec). If the Sith gain power, they'll be requesting emergency power and activating Order 66 before you can say "May the Force be with you." But the likelihood of this actually happening are quite small — say, approximately 3,720 to one.

And hey, if George Lucas can make nearly a billion dollars worldwide with a movie as bad as *The Phantom Menace*, he should be able to get at least a few of us to the polls. If Arnold Schwarzenegger can be governor of California, then prime minister of Canada, Yoda will be.

Take a sleep of faith



DAVID JOHNSTON

The storm is coming soon. It rolls in from the sea, threatening to loose all of us from our bearings and send our very souls into a maelstrom of discontent and chaos. I'm talking about midterms, obviously. The actual weather's pretty darn balmy for this time of year.

But October's midterms are a trial for all of us as we come up against a brick wall and begin jettisoning the unnecessary aspects of life. Invariably, sleep tops this list, as we convince ourselves that staying awake through sheer willpower is the best way around our time shortage, and even though we've been awake for 44 consecutive hours, maybe just one more spent on this paper will bump us from a C+ to a B-. Oh look, the computer screen is birthing fluorescent dancing hippos — aren't they oh-so-pretty?

Have the hallucinations passed? Good, because those are clear indications that you need a bit of help. Luckily, that's what I'm here for. As (the son of) a licensed medical professional, I've got everything you need to fight insomnia. My advice shall be your shining star; my voice, a beacon in the night; my words will be your light to carry you to me and my brilliant mindset. It's just possible I'm exaggerating my abilities just slightly here, but I doubt you'll notice due to sleep deprivation, so everyone's good.

The first thing to do is to get rid of all your artificial stimulants. No, seriously, all of them. Caffeine, sugar, methamphetamines, and horse placentas (also known as "Red Bull") have been fuelling you for years, and I doubt they're doing any good at this point. Not because they don't work — they did for awhile — but we as a species have begun developing an immunity to these garden-variety stimulants, the same way that one out of every 10 cockroaches manages to survive the terror of laboratory-based insect poison, right before getting stomped by a laboratory-based hiking boot.

The point is, until we switch to harder drugs, we're not going to get any serious benefit, so you might as well free up your shelf space for valuable other tools — like torture devices. The ancient Romans used iron maidens and toe clamps to keep their scribes alert and awake. At least, I think that's what my history notes say. At any rate, pain and personal danger are wonderful incentives towards accomplishing any feasible goal.

So we've exhausted chemical and physical methods, and frankly, I'm out of ideas. I'm not sure how this happened. But hopefully you've followed my instructions to the letter, perhaps horribly injuring yourself in the process. It's almost as if a fellow student decided to mitigate the disadvantages of the bell curves by instructing his classmates, under the guise of a helpful advice column, to do great bodily harm to themselves. I can't imagine anyone in the media who would abuse their power in such a blatant manner, but you know how people are.

THE MARBLE PEDESTAL

Normally, I'm not one to support group organizations of any sort; hell, I think the Canadian Union of Postal Workers is a cult. However, there is one group in particular who always works their way into my heart. Of course, I'm talking about the noble Girl Guides and their famous cookies. Of all of my favorite bi-annual events, Girl Guide cookies season is the best by far, certainly much more delicious than, say, the equinox. I'm not addicted yet, but I'm hoping there's a support group out there, because sooner or later I'm gonna get hooked.

Girl Guide Cookies have played a number of huge roles in Canadian

history. The first box was sold in 1927 in Regina, Saskatchewan. This monumental event in Regina's history is rivalled only by the time that Uncle Jim got his tractor stuck in the mud. Girl Guide cookies have also been to space where Canadian astronauts used them to demonstrate to their international partners that space food isn't really that bad.

Also, during the 1991 Gulf War, every member of the Canadian forces was given a free box of Girl Guide cookies. They functioned marvelously as handy day-to-day rations, with the added side effect that our brave troops quickly learned to use the atrocious mint cookies as an effective form of prisoner torture.

We also mustn't forget the stalwart young women who work so hard to deliver these cookies to the public. Remember, they face bitterly

cold, seedy neighbourhoods, uncaring automobiles, and vicious hound attacks — all in the name of junk food. Unlike those lazy Boy Scouts who do nothing but learn to tie knots and build quinzhees, whatever the hell those are. My guess is some form of squid.

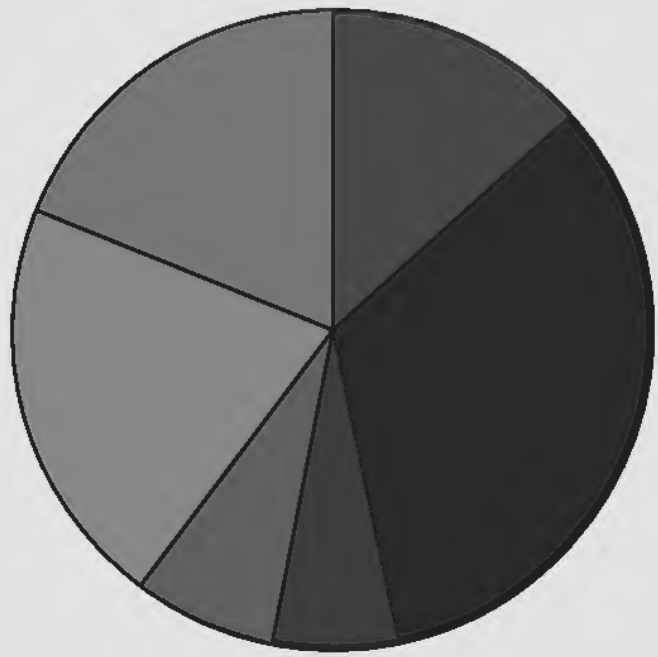
So, to forever embody the Girl Guides' valiant efforts and the cookies' role in our country's history, I proudly raise a box onto the pedestal. Except the mint ones — those things are seriously nasty.

MIKE CHAFE

The Marble Pedestal is a semi-irregular feature where a person or group who does something particularly noteworthy and awesome is elevated temporarily to a pedestal of prose, and praised. No actual enshrinements are performed.

readerpoll

"To solve their \$59-million deficit, what should the University administration cut?"



- Construction of the Centennial Centre for Interdisciplinary Science (19%)
- Athletics funding (21%)
- The snow-shovelling budget (7%)
- Faculty salaries (6%)
- Administration salaries (33%)
- Just put it all on tuition increases (14%)

TOTAL RESPONSES: 96

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:
"Did you attend the Students' Union's much-touted Carbon Capture debate?"

vote online at
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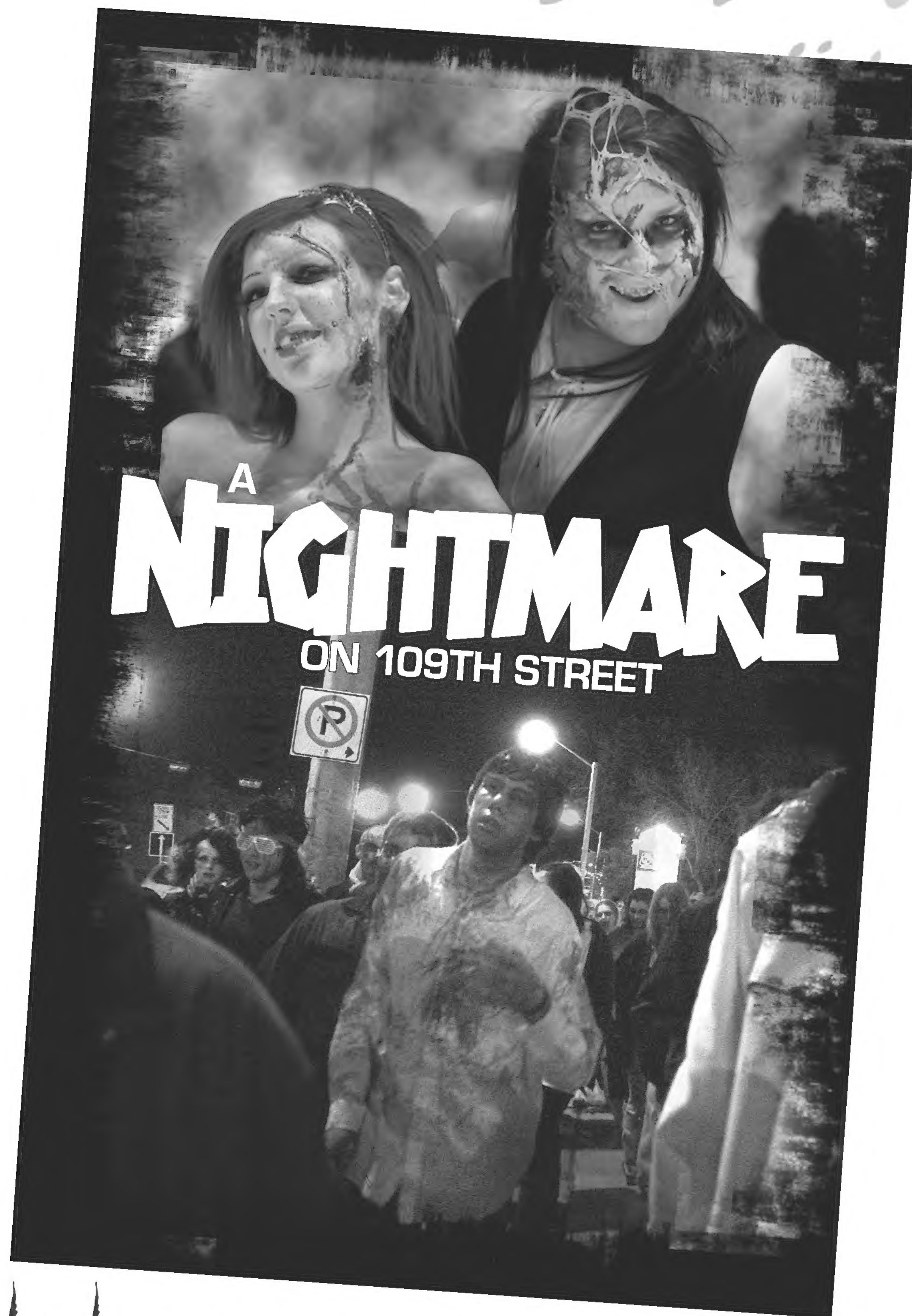
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ANYTHING BUT BORING dEdmonton

Words by Mike Kendrick
Photos by Adam Shepp,
Neil Kuefler, Christian
Nelson, and Pete Yee

THE CITY OF CHAMPIONS HAS COLLECTED MORE THAN ITS SHARE OF MONIKERS OVER THE YEARS, BUT ONE THAT'S STOOD OUT MOST IS "DEADMONTON." THIS YEAR, A GROUP OF HORROR MASTERS ARE HOPING TO RECLAIM THE TITLE AND TURN EDMONTON INTO THE HALLOWEEN CAPITAL OF CANADA.



dEdmonton Events Schedule

All Month Events

Dexter Nebula's Bingo of the Undead

10081 JASPER AVENUE NW, EVERY TUESDAY

Ghosts and Graveyard Tours

10045 109 ST NW, 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM ON SELECT EVENINGS

Plenty of Chances

Sweeney Todd

STANLEY A. MILNER LIBRARY, OCT. 28-31

Fort Edmonton Park Spooktacular

FORT EDMONTON PARK, FOX & WHITEMUD DR., OCT. 23-24

Edmonton Opera: *Rigoletto*

JUBILEE AUDITORIUM, 11455-87 AVENUE NW, RUNS OCT. 24-29

The Bone House

TRANSALTA ARTS BARN, 10330-84 AVE., RUNS OCT. 22-NOV. 8

Dead Centre of Town

THE IRON HORSE, 8101 GATEWAY BOULEVARD, RUNS OCT. 29

Sensual Screams of Halloween Party and Trade Show

A SECRETHOTEL IN EDMONTON | SEE WEBSITE FOR DETAILS, RUNS OCT. 30-31

The Big Night Only

Edmonton Queen

9734 98 AVE. 11 A.M. BOARDING FOR KIDS AND 8 P.M. FOR ADULTS

Sonic's Fourth Annual Monster Mash

Halloween Bash

EDMONTON EVENT CENTRE, 8882-170 ST.

Hallowe'en at New City

NEW CITY SUBURBS, 10081 JASPER AVE. 7:30 PM

Zombie Halloween! at the AGA

10230 JASPER AVE.

Spook-Tacular Farmers' Market

GRAIN ELEVATOR SITE, 100 RAILWAY AVE, SPRUCE GROVE,

9:30 AM-2:30 PM

Oh Susanna! Halloween Special

THE VARSCONA THEATRE, 10329 83 AVE. 7:30 PM

Rapid Fire Theatre - Halloween Chlmprov

THE VARSCONA THEATRE, 10329 83 AVE. OCT. 31 @ 11 P.M.

Visit dEdmonton.com for more details.

What started nearly a year ago as an idea between a trio of enthusiasts has blossomed into a full-fledged festival. Tired of hearing "Deadmonton" used to describe the city's dwindling cultural footprint and staggering homicide rate, Darryl Plunkie, Christian Nelson, and Derek Clayton collaborated in November 2008 to seize and re-brand the name.

"It's the boring name for people who don't like Edmonton — they call it 'Deadmonton' because there's nothing to do here," Plunkie says. "So let's make something positive out of that and reclaim that name. Instead of other people imposing a name on us, let's embrace it, and make it into something that's memorable for a reason."

In the 11 months since, dEdmonton (as they've re-dubbed it) has birthed a five-person council and has managed to recruit dozens of Halloween lovers, eager to show the city's residents that Edmonton's festival season doesn't need to die with the summer months.

"Edmonton's festival city, but we're kind of summer-festival oriented," Nelson says of the role they hope to see dEdmonton assume.

"We ended up finding out that there's a lot of interest in Halloween and the whole spooky season. We realized that we could actually pull something off — create a festival. There's a hole in the festival schedule between September and November," Plunkie echoes.

The festival's council, which has also recruited Kenn Burand and Rona Anderson, isn't just composed exclusively of Halloween nuts, either. Realizing the many areas of involvement required to pull together an organization of such a scale, each member has a role to fill. Out of the three "founders," Plunkie brings his Halloween expertise to the table as the administrator of HalloweenEdmonton.com, and has years of involvement in the city's October events.

"If you go over to his place, his coffee-table books are 'How to make a fake brain' and 'How to duplicate flesh wounds,'" Nelson jokes. "His dining

room's full of weird little things."

Clayton, meanwhile, has been a primary organizer in Edmonton's annual horror film festival Dedfest (formerly Deadmonton Horror Festival). And Nelson brings an Edmonton-centric focus to the group, coming together with the others via Connect2Edmonton, an online networking forum.

"I'm not a big Halloween guy quite honestly," Nelson confesses. "People are always a little surprised that I'm going to costume store grand openings and dealing with hearse clubs and zombies. It's not normally my thing, but it's fun, and I think there's huge potential in it for Edmonton."

Part of the group's strategy in reclaiming the dEdmonton brand is to focus on what they feel is one of Halloween's largest draws: community involvement. For several years, Edmonton was known for Halloween Alley, a spooky counterpart to its renowned Candy Cane Lane. But towards the turn of the century, the event began to lose momentum, if not from lack of popularity, then from the difficulty of putting together the yearly effort. Nelson says that after speaking with some of the former organizers, he understands why collaborating with an entire street's worth of houses can prove so arduous:

"You've got vandalism issues, and just overall cost issues, and all those sorts of things, so it's really tough for them to put it together. They're still trying to get something going, but we're sort of realizing that without a catalyzing force, Halloween Alley is probably not going to be what it was any time soon."

But instead of taking this as a blow to the city's Halloween spirit, Nelson and Plunkie see it as an opportunity to re-focus how Edmonton haunts are promoted.

"What we tried to do to make that up, though, is we created dEdmonton's Most Haunted," Nelson says. "We've got all these people around the city — mostly around the northeast, but all around the city — who are the home haunters that decorate their houses up like crazy. So this year what we're doing is listing all these houses, so if you do want to, you can hop in your car and drive around the whole northeast or the whole city and look at all these crazily decorated houses. This year, it's just trying to get everybody

"IF WE START PREMIERING MOVIES, IF WE HAVE ALBERTA'S BEST HAUNTED HOUSE, IF WE HAVE DEADMONTON'S MOST HAUNTED, PEOPLE ARE GOING TO COME AND START SEEING THIS STUFF ALL THE TIME, AND IT'LL ACTUALLY BECOME A TOURIST DESTINATION. THAT'S OUR GOAL."

- DARRYL PLUNKIE

together, and get their names [...] We really do hope next year that it'll sort of grow into a contest or organized tours or that sort of thing."

And it's not just Edmonton that's getting in on the carnival of carnage, either. The dEdmonton website hosts a custom Google Map that lists major events and locations in and around the Edmonton area, and as far outside the city as Westlock and St. Paul. Nelson even recounts the tale of the small Alberta town of Clyde, whose population, just shy of 500, has temporarily doubled every Halloween for the past four years, as several residents collaborate to turn their town hall into a massive haunted house. This year, with the help of dEdmonton, they hope to turn the exposure into charity by filling an entire hearse with food bank donations. Plunkie sees this kind of local involvement as one of dEdmonton's greatest success stories.

"Halloween is one of the few times when you actually meet your neighbours in your community. You might wave to somebody down the street, but until you take your kids to their door [on Halloween], you may not actually meet them. So if we have these people building their communities, [we can] maybe have some friendly decorating competitions for those who like to participate," he says.

"If we can have even a smattering of that across the city so that people are meeting their neighbours outside of just when they go around that night, let's make it the full month. Let's start meeting each other throughout the rest of the weeks of the year. We might even end up making communities better, safer, as you know who your neighbours are now."

Organizing dEdmonton hasn't been all treats with no tricks, though. In what's largely been a grassroots effort, Plunkie says that their fledgling festival has had to face a number of hurdles in its short lifespan.

"Until you're a registered organization for a full year, you can't get any major funding. Our funding has been from us, a few commercial sponsors, and lots of volunteer hours."

But he and his cohorts hope to see enthusiasm for dEdmonton continue to expand, with the eventual goal of making Edmonton a pinnacle location for the Halloween season. Plunkie says that he hopes the festival will become large enough to draw in enough of a

crowd to be recognized by the city as a legitimate tourism venture.

"You're not going to really get people to come to Edmonton for Halloween night itself, because everybody's doing their thing, but if we can keep the month full, people can come here from other cities to see what we have. If we start premiering 'movies, if we have Alberta's best haunted house, if we have dEdmonton's Most Haunted, people are going to come and start seeing this stuff all the time, and it'll actually become a tourist destination. That's our goal."

"And not just for the month," Plunkie continues. "In the States, there's Halloween conventions that happen in April, May, June, and we'd actually like to hold one of those here, so that people are coming to the city with tourism dollars for an event promoting something six months later."

That's just the kind of effort that dEdmonton has been committing to for the past year. Floats for dEdmonton have appeared in both the Capital Ex and Calgary Stampede parades this year, along with numerous small-town festivals outside the city. In the past few weeks alone, dEdmonton has advertised and been involved in the annual Scarecrow Festival and the haunted corn maze, and has organized its own spectacles, including zombie walks and the crowning of their very own Miss dEdmonton scream queen.

"There's something for everyone, and that's kind of the whole point of what we've been doing this for," Nelson says. "There's a solid two weeks of stuff, and even a whole month of things going on."

With the help, passion, and legwork of several volunteers, the past year has all but vanished into a haunting October fog. With the big day quickly approaching, Plunkie and Nelson know that with dEdmonton, there's truly no rest for the wicked.

"We don't get to take a break on the 31st, because we have to plan our Santa Claus parade entry, which is on December 6. As much as it would be nice to take a rest, we don't get to," Nelson smiles with more pride than lament.

Plunkie offers a devious-but-heartwarming grin that's a perfect fit for the Pumpkin-Head face paint he's been sporting at most events.

"My friends and family think I'm more insane now than I was before."

"THERE'S SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE, AND THAT'S KIND OF THE WHOLE POINT OF WHAT WE'VE BEEN DOING THIS FOR. THERE'S A SOLID TWO WEEKS OF STUFF, AND EVEN A WHOLE MONTH OF THINGS GOING ON."

- CHRISTIAN NELSON

When there's
no more room in CALGARY
the dead will walk in EDMONTON

DAWN
OF THE
DEDMONTON

MISS DEDMONTON IS JOEY TRAMER

WHAT EVER
HAPPENED TO
MISS DEDMONTON?

social intercourse

Babes For Breasts

Featuring Ann Vriend, Chloe Albert, Amanda Rheume, and NLX
Thursday, October 22 at 8:30 p.m.
Haven Social Club (15120A Stony Plain Road)
\$10 advance, \$12 at the door

If that title didn't get your attention, then perhaps their cause will. Not, as one might assume from the name, an event organized by devious little toddlers trying to get women to donate chest space to their suspect cause of quelling infant thirst, Babes for Breasts is rather a touring collective of several female singer/songwriters raising both funds and awareness in the fight against breast cancer. The show is now in its sixth year of operation and has a goal of raising \$100,000 with their current tour, which the organization donates to both regional and local charities to provide support for both women and men who have been diagnosed with breast cancer.

Moby

Friday, October 23 at 8 p.m.
Edmonton Events Centre (8882-170 St)
\$35 at ticketmaster.ca

Everyone's favourite bald-headed record-spinning rascalion Moby will be bringing the tour for his latest album *Wait For Me* to Edmonton this week. The populist ambient electronica guru behind 1999's *Play* — that CD pretty much everyone in junior high had — released his ninth record earlier this year, which features the single "Shot in the Back of the Head," the music video for which was directed by famed surrealist David Lynch. Set in a industrial hellscape much like *Eraserhead*, the black-and-white animation follows a man whose lover is a woman's head. After he's shot in the back of the head (wink wink) by an assailant, the woman's floating cranium attacks and kills the assailant. *Fin*. The video represents the most bizarre creation of Moby's career and the most mainstream and sensical of Lynch's.

Mostly Water: The Variety Show

By Mostly Water Theatre
Saturday, October 24 at 8 p.m.
Roxy Theatre (1070-124 St.)
\$21 at tixonthesquare.ca

Variety shows, much as their name suggests, tend to be variable in both acts and quality, depending on the exact number of dogs and ponies the show has. But Mostly Water Theatre's latest offering is no dog-and-pony show. The sketch comedy troupe presents an evening of entertainment that includes musicians Robb and Mike Angus of local Edmonton band The Wheat Pool, NDP MP Linda Duncan, as well as a game/talk show, which should provide enough variety to satisfy even the most discerning dog-and-pony lovers, as well as anyone who wants to see some fresh comedy for a night on the town.

3 Inches of Blood

With guests
Tuesday, October 27 at 6 p.m.
Starlite Room (10030-102 St.)
\$20 at ticketmaster.ca, Blackbyrd, and Union Events

3 Inches of Blood is a band whose members have long hair and are motivated by "alcohol, tobacco, drugs, and the devil." But the similarities to Hanson end there, as the Vancouver-based quartet churns out revivalist British heavy-metal infused with the leather-clad spirit of the masters of the '70s like Judas Priest and Motörhead. Like many metal bands, their songs and lyrics are steeped in cryptic and fantastical Norse-like mythology, and the group's fan club is appropriately called "The Goatrider's Horde." Because "The Ponymounted Brood" is missing a certain *je ne sai quoi*.

JOHN KMECH
Team Kat



Flogging Molly pub-lic enemy number one

musicpreview

Flogging Molly

With Inward Eye and Dean Lickyer
Monday, October 26 at 7 p.m.
Edmonton Event Centre (8882-70 Street NW)
\$34-37 at Ticketmaster

JOHN KMECH
Arts & Entertainment Staff

Pubs seem to be a recurring motif for Dennis Casey of Flogging Molly. It seems like a stereotype considering the band's ancestral roots in the Emerald Isle, but it's certainly fitting after 12 years of hearing the Los Angeles-based Irish punks wail on about drunken lullabies and whiskey on Sundays.

Every story Casey tells somehow relates to the band members sipping a pint — partaking during their shows with fans, trying the local brew in every different country and city they've played around the world, and even drinking out in the middle of the Irish countryside during the recording of their 2008 album *Float*, surrounded by animals and instruments.

"The studio had a pub built right into it. That's the cover of the record — that's all of us at the pub at the studio," says Casey, noting that the horse on *Float*'s cover is, in fact, real. "Everyday after recording, you'd just walk about 20 feet over to the pub, pour your own beer, and decompress."

Relaxing and tossing back a cold one was a necessity for the members, who "ate, slept, and drank" together while living in a house in Ireland as they wrote and recorded what would become *Float*. Secluded out in the midst of the verdant hills, there wasn't much to else to do except play music, hit up the local watering hole, or head out to the local castle.

"The owner of the studio took us to see this castle that was really secluded. It's in ruin, but it's in the

middle of a cattle farm," explains Casey. "I've never experienced being so close to 50 bulls — when I walked up to this castle, I didn't realize all these bulls were going to be so interested in checking us out. Bulls are quite intimidating, especially when there's 50 of them looking at you. But there is a trick to it — if you run up to them and scream, they do run the other way."

Apparently, the owners of recording studios in Ireland have been exposed to some misinformation from Pamplona regarding how such events take place.

"The studio had a pub built right into it. That's the cover of the record — that's all of us at the pub at the studio. Everyday after recording, you'd just walk about 20 feet over to the pub, pour your own beer, and decompress."

DENNIS CASEY

ON RECORDING HIS BAND'S LATEST ALBUM, *Float*

"When he started to do it, I was thinking, 'well, at least the record's almost done, they could put it out — because these bulls are going to trample us,'" laughs Casey. "I was so afraid. They also don't run away — they run about 20 feet and then turn around and look at you again. It was a very humiliating and humbling experience, to say the least, and I always joke with everyone that that's the Irish version of Running with the Bulls."

Casey remained humble discussing *Float*'s widespread success, although it's unclear as to whether their run-in with the bulls influenced their songwriting process. Critically praised for taking a darker, more sombre tone than their previous works, *Float* also won over fans, debuting at number four on the

Billboard 200.

But that hasn't been the end of the luck o' the Irish for the group. The past year has also brought an intra-band marriage, when singer Dave King married fiddle player Bridget Regan, as well as seeing their classic drinking anthem "Drunken Lullabies" was certified Gold. As one of the few punk groups of acclaim that incorporate a Celtic sound, Flogging Molly's sound has been a popular choice in the media, and they've been featuring in dozens of TV shows, video games and even in advertisements for Casey's favourite stout, Guinness. As well, their mainstream popularity has garnered them spots on each of the grand trifecta of late-night television shows. But Casey notes that in terms of personality, one man stands as king, for a very specific reason.

"The coolest one was Jimmy Kimmel," Casey says. "Jay Leno was super nice. Conan was pretty cool too; I didn't get to see him as much, but he was very appreciative. Jay Leno comes right into your dressing room and thanks you for playing the show. It was kind of surreal, because you see the guy on TV all the time. But Jimmy Kimmel — he was great. There's a bar below where they shoot the show, and they have a big party afterwards and he comes down and hangs out with you. And obviously, they're serving drinks."

It seems like everyone wants to drink with the band. But even Jimmy Kimmel would have a difficult time on St. Patrick's Day, a day when the band becomes a precious commodity, much like a snake in Ireland. So the band is embarking, this next year, for the sixth time on the Green 17 tour, hitting 17 cities that ends with a St. Patrick's Day bash in Tempe, Arizona.

But for the number of drunken lullabies they've played for fans over the past several years and the amount of libations that have been consumed as a result, one might be shocked to find out that Casey has never tried green beer.

"You can't turn Guinness green," Casey laughs. "If I had my choice, I would order a Guinness. [But] I like most beers — I'm really not fussy about it."

Oilsands, Harper's vocals latest on Propagandhi's hitlist

musicpreview

Propagandhi

With The Rebel Spell, Passenger Action, and DFA

Saturday show sold out Sunday, October 25 at 6 p.m. All ages Starlite Room (10030-102 St.) \$17 at Blackbyrd, Listen, Freecloud, and ticketworkshop.com

BEN SIR

Arts & Entertainment Writer

In 2007, The Canadian History Society's magazine, *The Beaver*, sought to uncover who the Canadian public revered as their worst countryman in an online poll. To their surprise, soaring in rank past criminal sociopath Paul Bernardo and Prime Minister Stephen Harper, was Chris Hannah, singer and guitarist for Winnipeg punk veterans Propagandhi.

"To the unfortunate dismay of the historical society, I climbed the rungs of that ladder and nearly unseated Pierre Trudeau," Hannah chuckles.

His voice emanates a surprising politeness for, apparently, one of our nation's greatest villains.

"We like to screw around," he explains. "A year or two before, our apparent online following voted us for a songwriting award which helped us win money to donate to a refugee centre in Winnipeg."

With the help of their mobilized fan base, Propagandhi left their imprint on the survey which Hannah assures "wasn't scientific or legitimate in anyway."

While Hannah and his cohorts (bassist Todd Kowalski, guitarist David Guillas, and the only other original member, drummer Jord Samolesky) can find humour in the political arena, the lyricist views other current mixtures of politics and music with a heavier

heart. When questioned about Harper's recent performance of a Beatles song with world renowned cellist Yo-Yo Ma, Hannah just sighs.

"If Yo-Yo Ma really knew who Stephen Harper was, he'd have nothing to do with him. I know he's more liberally minded."

While many might view Harper's musical foray as strangely humanizing, Hannah views it as distressing.

"[Harper's] popularity skyrocketed. That's a dangerous indicator of our society if he sings a song, or Bill Clinton plays the saxophone, and becomes more popular. It's so unimportant," Hannah says.

What the singer does find personally important is Propagandhi's continued ability to tour and spread their message after 23 years as a band.

"I'd like to think that people come out to the shows because we still make music that's interesting and important to them," he theorizes.

The band catapults through Edmonton for not one, but two shows this weekend, including an all-ages event on Sunday night.

"I hope we merit the two shows. It worked out last time," the singer speculates.

This tour continues a resurgent year for the band which saw the release of their critically acclaimed album *Supporting Caste*, and an increased, although unconventional touring schedule of 10-12 shows every two or three weeks.

This method departs from the common punk practice of touring for months on end, which is result of Propagandhi "not being really into a lot of touring culture."

"For us it doesn't feel healthy to be stuck in that rut of an endless life on the road," Hannah explains.

This latest eight-show run which begins in Regina and ends in Portland, Oregon, brings the outspoken band to



Alberta where their politically oppositional messages appear more relevant than ever to their fevered followers.

"We've attacked many core values of the average Canadian. We've attacked people's religious beliefs, their patriotic beliefs, dietary, and sexual beliefs," the dedicated vegan and gay-marriage supporter reflects.

Upon discussing Premier Ed Stelmach's response to recent oilsands protests by Greenpeace as an "attack against our quality of life," Hannah draws parallels between the flak received by the environmental activists and his own band. To label Propagandhi as "unpatriotic" would be "a valuable tactic for the Conservative government.

We'd be a very easy target for people and groups like that to dismiss us to a certain part of the population," he responds.

However, Hannah dismisses Stelmach's rebuttal as nothing more than "typical of the prevailing order which is trying to defend at all costs, the money-making venture that is the tar sands."

While the singer was content earlier to keep a humorous tone to the conversation, this topic evokes some of the social venom that Propagandhi's musical fangs are famous for.

"People want this great life for the next 20 years where they can have giant trucks and swimming pools, when in the not-to-distant future, there's going to be nothing left. There won't even

be water left," the singer contends. "If they're talking about quality of life, the real terrorists are those gutting the tar sands and our planet."

Some portions of the musical community, or population at large, might dismiss a band who preludes a song ("The Flenzing of Sandor Katz,") with an auditory and humorous dissection of a human when addressing the topic of "humanely slaughtered meat," though Chris Hannah has a different proposal.

"What's the old Aboriginal adage? When there's no water or food, are you going to eat your money?"

It's Propagandhi's articulate passion that continues to draw fans after over two decades of dissent.

Black Comedy to be illuminating social farce

theatrepreview

Black Comedy

Directed by Kim McCaw

Written by Peter Shaffer

Starring Nikolai Witschl, Delia Barnett, Mary

Hulbert, Adam Cope, Elliott James, Carmela

Sison, William Mitchell, and Piet Defraeye

Runs October 29-November 7 at 7:30 p.m.

Timms Centre (87 Ave. and 112 St.)

\$5-10 at Timms Box Office or tixonthesquare.ca

BRUCE CINNAMON

Arts & Entertainment Writer

1960s London: a place of peace and prosperity, a time of social liberation and uninhibited creation. A sculptor and his fiancée are preparing his dismal flat for a polite evening gathering, upon which all their hopes for the future depend. They've expended every effort to create a good impression, to make sure that the evening proceeds without flaw. And then the lights go out.

Written by Peter Schaffer (*Equus*, *Amadeus*), *Black Comedy* uses light and darkness not only for great comic effect, but to reflect its many themes: deceptions, false impressions, secrets, and concealment of truth. As characters wait for the lights to come back on, they must come to terms with the consequences of bumbling around in the dark, both physically and morally.

Nikolai Witschl plays Brindsley, the prototypical starving artist turned anti-hero,

desperate to make a good impression on his father-in-law to be and a wealthy German patron. Describing the show as a "hilarious sequence of close calls and injuries," Witschl must perform such farcical feats as returning all of his neighbour's "borrowed" furniture, in the dark, while carrying on a conversation with said neighbour.

Witschl likens the show to a "Ricky Gervais style of comedy" where "characters start [morally] around the middle — the more that they do, the worse it gets for them." Despite his character's flaws, Witschl ultimately sympathizes with Brindsley, stating that at his core, "he's trying to make the best of a bad situation."

"Theatre is always about truth [...] for an actor, the only thing you really need to do is express moments of truth [but] my character lies about 80 per cent of the show."

NIKOLAI WITSCHL

ACTOR, BRINDSLEY IN *BLACK COMEDY*

This isn't to say that Brindsley's motives are entirely altruistic, nor are his means of accomplishing them. Witschl says that Brindsley justifies his actions to himself by claiming he's doing them to defend others.

"In order to make sure that nobody gets hurt, you need to sort of subvert the truth," Witschl explains.

This rationalization for lies and deception

creates a slippery slope for Brindsley, who struggles to maintain the illusion he's created.

"Theatre is always about truth [...] for an actor, the only thing you really need to do is express moments of truth," says Witschl, describing his personal theatrical philosophy.

"My character lies about 80 per cent of the show," he adds ironically.

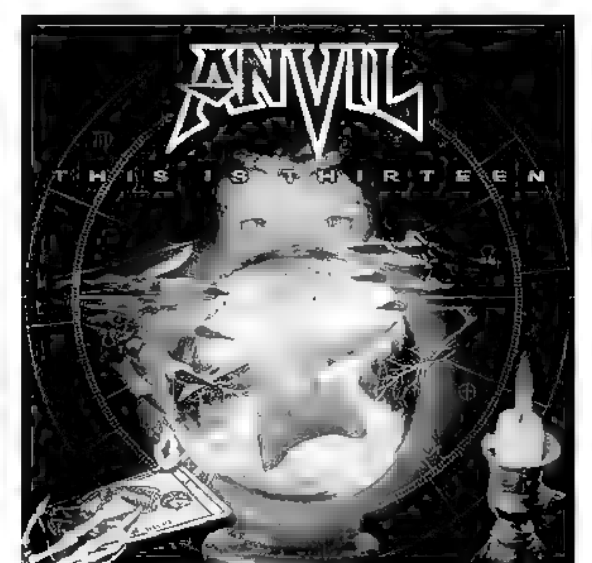
Witschl cites his favourite aspect of *Black Comedy* to be the ensemble cast. Six students from the BFA Acting class, one Drama alumnus, and one University of Alberta professor make up the eclectic collection of characters that find their way to Brindsley's flat, and each is more bizarre than the last. A scared old woman getting her first taste of alcohol and losing all her inhibitions, a flamboyantly homosexual collector of fancy furniture, a wise and crafty philosopher turned electrician, a staunch British colonel — each reacts differently to an evening spiralling out of anyone's control.

At the end of the chaotic evening, *Black Comedy* is a cautionary tale about those who deceive, and those who assume. As Witschl puts it, it's the product of a constant desire to create a good impression, and a dangerous temptation of "assuming that you know where you're going in the dark."

Despite its side-splitting slapstick and frantic physical farce, *Black Comedy* has an underlying tone of melancholy. Witschl identifies this to stem from the protagonist's failure to maintain his deception.

"For Brindsley, this show is a tragedy," Witschl reveals.

But no matter the consequences for its hero, *Black Comedy* promises to entertain and enlighten its audience.



albumreview

Anvil

This Is Thirteen

VH1 Classic

JUSTIN DUMA

Arts & Entertainment Writer

It's been 28 years since the creation of Canada's heavy metal legend, Anvil. The first thing that comes to mind is: what can Anvil offer after almost three decades of procreant pop culture? The answer is simple: a 13th album ingeniously titled *This Is Thirteen*.

This musical trio has played straightforward heavy metal since 1981 following a simple recipe of one part slow, pounding doom with two parts fast, furious riffs. Tracks "This Is Thirteen," "Bombs Away," "Ready to Fight," and "American Refugee" definitely prove that there are some dinosaurs that escape the catastrophic meteor known to most musicians as selling out. Following in the footsteps of their previous albums, *This Is Thirteen* provides these few outstanding tracks amidst a pile of filler.

This is not a trendy or a memorable album — just a mediocre heavy-metal album from a wrinkly and chafed heavy-metal band. In reality, this album was about as necessary as Kanye West giving people another reason to hate him. Lucky number 13? Definitely not. There is a reason most buildings do not have a 13th floor.

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Truncated *Jungle Book* a disappointment



theatrepreview

The Jungle Book

Directed by Dean Patrick Fleming
Adapted by Tracey Power
Based on the Stories by Rudyard Kipling
Starring Oliver Koomsatira, Chip Chuipka, Glenda Braganza, Paula Jean Hixson, and Mike Payette
Runs October 17–November 1
Showtimes vary. See website for details.
Citadel Theatre (9828–101A Ave.)
\$25–45 at citadeltheatre.com or by phone at (780) 425-1820

CAITLIN GORUK
Arts & Entertainment Writer

The theatre was swimming with wee children and their excited jitters before the show. They were screaming, laughing, and smacking mom on the shoulder whining, “is it going to start yet?” It was lovely, really. We can’t blame them though — they know and love the story of *The Jungle Book* and they were about to see it unfold in real life. To them it’s magical. Did it live up to the levels of excitement they honoured it with? Sadly, not so much.

The Jungle Book is the story of a young boy named Mowgli who, abandoned by his parents in the jungle, grows up under the care of

the animals residing there. Although most of the animals see him as family, one particular tiger named Shere Khan believes that man has no place in the jungle and threatens Mowgli’s life.

Tracey Power’s adaptation, although a valiant effort which elicits a few chuckles and suspenseful moments, doesn’t do the original story justice. The play is condensed into an hour-long show, not allowing much room for development and connection to the characters.

This adaptation is difficult to follow at times and all of the events seem to come to pass far too quickly. One moment Mowgli (Oliver Koomsatira) is learning the ways of fishing, the next he’s swinging away with a couple of monkeys, and before you know it, he kills Shere Khan (Chip Chuipka) and the lights are coming up signalling the end of the show.

It would be nice to get to know each character more and be able to indulge in each moment that’s happening. Even as a child in the audience, I would feel cheated and a little disconcerted over how rushed everything is.

Fortunately, there are a few saving graces. For one, the sheer agility and physically unbridled nature of the actors is marvelous. Koomsatira exudes pure energy and is exciting to watch as he throws himself around on stage. Tabagui (Glenda Braganza) has her witty jabs that send a wave of giggles through the audience, such as a memorable moment when she asks if she can eat one of the children in

the audience to relieve her rumbling stomach. The gang of hooligan monkeys (Braganza, Paula Jean Hixson, and Mike Payette) possess endless energy and are a definite highlight with their rap session and screams of how they are “most excellent!”

A couple moments during the show allow for audience interaction and in family shows, this can be crucial in keeping the kids engaged and excited. The children seemed to enjoy getting to act like monkeys and becoming a herd of raging buffalos.

On a technical level, the lighting design (Ana Cappelluto) helps to beautifully enhance the show. The usage of silhouettes and a multi-toned cyclorama to create sunrises and sunsets produces phenomenal pictures.

Costumes (Susana Vera) are another aspect that stands out. The intricate masks depicting each animal are exquisitely crafted, aiding the atmosphere of the play to be more realistic.

Although this particular performance contains a few theatrical gems, overall, the story doesn’t leave the audience with a lasting impression. *The Jungle Book* is a classical children’s story that has captured many hearts with its message of acceptance, perseverance, and the fear of what we don’t understand. But this performance did not succeed in capturing hearts. Through the whole event, the kids seemed most excited when they received animal masks, and that wasn’t even a part of the show.



albumreview

Spirits

Spirits
Sonic Unyon

KEVIN PINKOSKI
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Spirits’ self-titled debut album tries to lure in its audience from the first song, “Into Gentle Arms,” reminding listeners that Spirits is here to take you “out of the dark / out of those hearts / into gentle arms.” The second song “Open the Door” only gets more determined, saying “Why do you

run away / why won’t you open the door.”

Spirits is a combination of the musical and songwriting abilities of Ian Smith and Brad Germain, with drummer Nick Skalkos. Self-produced, and hailing from Kitchener, Ontario, the group combines many keyboards,

bland lyrics, and a claim to have musical connections with such bands as The Cure, U2, and Hall and Oates, added together to create *Spirits*.

While they can boast having opened and shared stages with bands like The Ting Tings, New Pornographers, and Crystal Castles, this album lacks the individuality to ever take Spirits beyond being a band opening for a bigger name.

Spirits claim that they never wanted to be a heavy band; instead they were shooting for something more “poppy.” Although they may have achieved this, their lack of interesting lyrics, and music imagination will in fact keep you from opening the door, and bringing these strange Spirits inside.

High tide for Vancouver's Hey Ocean!



musicpreview

Hey Ocean!

Thursday, October 29 at 9 p.m.
The Pawn Shop (10549-82 Ave.)
\$14 at ticketmaster.ca
www.myspace.com/heyocean

BRYAN SAUNDERS
Arts & Entertainment Staff

A new tide must be coming in for Hey Ocean! because, while they continue to charm audiences with their distinctive West Coast sound and wildly energetic live performances, they're starting to find themselves playing for audiences further and further from their home-base in Vancouver.

"We're getting to play some places that we haven't played before," says lead vocalist and flutist Ashleigh Ball, referring to the band's recent stops in Pennsylvania and New York.

"It's pretty romantic getting to go to places like New York and getting to play a show there," she continues. "I've been there a couple of times before just visiting friends or just going to the city to see what it's all about, and I've always just wanted to have an opportunity to play music there. It's really nice to be able to do that!"

Recently, Hey Ocean! has filmed and released a number of music videos. The process of filming their very first video for "California," was something

of an adventure, according to Ball.

"To get the deal that this film company was going to give us, we had to shoot everything at night," Ball recalls. "From 8 p.m. to 8 a.m., it was just working, working, working all night, even though the video supposedly happens during the day."

"But it was cheaper to use the equipment [at night] and, yeah, it just kind of worked out that way because we had to rent out a laundromat and everything," she explains.

"I'm an expert in cowbell!"

ASHLEIGH BALL
VOCALIST, HEY OCEAN!

Since that first video earlier this year, the band has been producing music videos at a feverish pace. In the space of just a few months, they put out videos for the songs "Too Soon," "Fifteen Words," and, just weeks ago, "Fish."

"That was done during the daytime," Ball affirms. "But it's funny, because everything [in 'Fish'] is supposed to happen inside a house on rainy day, but it was actually really, really nice and sunny outside when we were filming it. So, that was kind of ironic."

With so many music videos to shoot and a packed touring schedule, it's difficult to understand where Ball — who also does voice work for a number of

animated children's shows — finds the time to do it all.

"Over the last three years, it's kind of been a battle between the voice world and the band world," she admits. "There was a point where I was flying in and out of cities: playing a show at night, and then flying home to do voice work for a series, and then flying back again right away. It drove me crazy, burning the candle at both ends. So, I've slowed down auditioning for voice work."

Voice acting and singing aren't Ball's only talents either. She's also a multi-instrumentalist, playing, in addition to the flute, every instrument imaginable on stage. When the subject is brought up though, Ball objects.

"Well, I don't really play any of them," she jokes. "I just pretend."

"I guess I play the glockenspiel when I'm on stage, which is like a little mini xylophone. And I sort of know how to play basic guitar. And I bang a cowbell sometimes, does that count?"

"I'm an expert in cowbell!" she roars.

"I play a little bit of piano and keyboard too, I suppose," she meekly admits, after recovering from a cowbell-expertise-induced fit of laughter. "But not really, I mean I'm just a really good faker; I just pretend like I know what I'm doing."

She pauses, and then chuckles.

"Mostly, though, I'm a vocalist and I just try to make up for what I can't play in charisma."



albumreview

Backstreet Boys

This is Us
Jive Records

MADELINE SMITH
Arts & Entertainment Writer

There are so many terrible puns to choose from when describing the latest Backstreet Boys comeback effort that it's difficult to pick just one.

To begin with the obvious, Backstreet's Back — again. Rising from the boy-band craze of the '90s and still going strong into the 21st century, the Boys' sixth album *This is Us* has arrived, much to

the delight of the throngs of die-hard BSB fans, more than 10 years after the beginnings of their teeny-bopper obsessions with the five dreamy boys.

It seems, however, that the Backstreet sound has changed. Most of the songs are focused in an electronic, club-oriented direction and don't quite sound like classic

boy-band pop. If the group is looking to pick up new fans by doing this, they're out of luck — today's preteens are too busy drooling over the Jonas Brothers to pay any mind to the now middle-aged Backstreet members. Plus, the group's token heartthrob Nick Carter is decidedly much less appealing after being unfortunately contaminated by Paris Hilton in 2003.

Nevertheless, songs like "Bigger" reveal insights into the former BSB style, and the overly dramatic and painful love ballad — a boy band standard — is covered in the song "Shattered." These glimpses into the good old days of boy band glory are what make this album enjoyable.

Stick to what you know Backstreet Boys, your fans Want It That Way.

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Gateway A&E:

Meetings every Tuesday in SUB 3-04 at 4pm.

Sassy trio of ladies who 'just don't give a folk' touring across Alberta

musicpreview

Ladies that Like to Folk

With Kaley Bird, Amy Thiessen, and Sidney York
Wednesday, October 28 at 8 p.m.
Jeffrey's Café (9640-142 St.)
\$10 at the door

BETH STORHEIM
Arts & Entertainment Staff

When one thinks of folk music, images of protest marches and plain-dressed banjo-players singing songs like "Kumbaya" may come to mind. But Sidney York of the Ladies that Like to Folk doesn't think this image of the genre holds water anymore.

"Folk music has evolved," York says. "Folk music is a musical commentary on life as it is right now."

York, along with fellow Calgarian Amy Thiessen and Edmontonian Kaley Bird, are all seasoned musicians. Bird released her debut album last year, while York has been teaching classical music for several years, and put out her own debut album earlier this year. Thiessen started out in a jazz trio and has since released a four-song EP, garnering radio play from CBC and CKUA. When these Ladies combine, their varied musical styles create an eclectic kind of folk music for audiences to experience.

"We offer a lot from different genres [...] I know my music borrows from a number of different styles, and Sidney York's style borrows from jazz. Amy has almost a pop sound," Bird says.

After meeting each other through a mutual friend, the three women decided to tour the province together, billing themselves as the "Women of Folk," but something about the name didn't seem quite fitting.

"[It's] not a bad name, but I think people [who came to the shows] were expecting more traditional, less shaven artists," Thiessen says.



However, it didn't take long before inspiration gave the trio an idea for a new name.

"We were in Jasper chatting about this tour and how we needed a new name. We weren't even talking about that when I said something about us being 'ladies that like to folk.' Kaley stopped us right there and was like, 'That's it! That's the name!' [...] Hopefully this name is a little more edgy, reflecting [the fact that] the music we write is more contemporary," explains Thiessen.

Now the threesome are preparing for a cross-

Canada tour, starting in Edmonton this month, but it hasn't been all lilies and roses getting this far.

"It's a lot of work to put a tour together," Bird says. "[But] we do like each other's music, and enjoy each other's company, so that helps."

"We book our own shows, we do all our own publicity, although we do have our own publicist now," adds York. "I'm a bit of a tour monster [...] I love to be out on the road."

Life won't be slowing down for the Ladies following the tour. Bird's second album will drop

in January, while York will be working on new music videos, and Thiessen will be working on her debut album, to be released in the spring. But none of the Ladies have ruled out the possibility of recording together in the future.

"I love touring with these girls because they inspire me the whole time. Each of us brings a different quality and dynamic and with that I think it offers a richness to the show. Not only that but we get to hang out, and these are two very entertaining women who I just keep enjoying more and more," Thiessen says.



CONTINUING UNDERGRADUATE AWARDS



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The Student Awards Office has several scholarship competitions with fall deadlines. Each competition has its own set of criteria and eligibility requirements as outlined in the following descriptions.

For more information on these and other competitions please visit our website at www.registrar.ualberta.ca/awards or the Student Awards Office at 120 Administration Building.

Jason Lang Scholarship

Applicants must be Alberta residents who have achieved a minimum GPA of 3.2 on ★24 in their previous year of studies (September 2008 to April 2009). If you have missed the September deadline, you can apply to the winter deadline.

The extended deadline to apply is December 31, 2009

University of Alberta Undergraduate Academic Scholarship Competition

There are approximately 300 awards available through this competition. The awards range in value from \$500 to \$3,000 with some being Faculty specific and some open to students in any Faculty.

The deadline to apply is October 30, 2009

Travel Scholarships

There is over \$250,000 available in scholarships and bursaries for University of Alberta students participating in a formal study abroad program. Visit the Student Awards website or the Education Abroad Program for applications and deadlines.

Undergraduate Leadership Awards Competition

There are approximately 50 available through this competition. The awards range in value from \$500 to \$20,000 with some being Faculty specific and some open to students in any Faculty.

The deadline to apply is October 30, 2009

Important Reminders

1. Applications for the Jason Lang Scholarship, Undergraduate Academic and Undergraduate Leadership Competitions will be made through Bear Tracks.
2. Payments will be applied directly to student accounts which can be viewed on Bear Tracks.
3. Awards will be applied towards tuition and fees prior to the deadline for paying tuition and fees; any remaining amount will be refunded. All awards accepted in the Fall Term will be divided equally—half in the Fall Term and half in the Winter Term. All awards accepted in the Winter Term will be paid out in a single payment in the Winter Term.

Check www.registrar.ualberta.ca/awards for important notices.



albumreview

Jamie T.
Kings & Queens
Pacemaker Recordings

DUSTIN BLUMHAGEN
Arts & Entertainment Writer

This 23-year-old Englishman has put out a pleasantly surprising experimental hip-hop album that blends multiple genres, successfully avoiding the potential for disaster that often comes with such an undertaking. Using many different instruments to accompany his rhymes, he

at times evokes The Streets and even Joe Strummer, while still making unique sounds.

Lyricaly, the album focuses on his life in London, England. Often, the bleakness of the city appears like a festering wound, whether he's talking about a lost love or his disillusionment

with the government. His rhymes are sharp, full of wit and sarcasm. Song titles like "Chaka Demus" and "Earth, Wind & Fire" show off his sense of humour, while the lyrics blend his political views with his bratty attitude in perfect balance. His thick accent aids his social commentary, providing a thinking man's alternative to the Eminems or Kanyes of today.

It isn't every day that a young hip-hopper uses acoustic guitars while sampling both the Angelic Upstarts and Joan Baez. A wonderful surprise of an experimental gem, I highly recommend this album to anyone looking for something a little different.



albumreview

Boys Like Girls
Love Drunk
Columbia/Red Ink

MADELINE SMITH
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Love Drunk, the sophomore effort from "pop-punk" hipsters Boys Like Girls, comes equipped with lots of bubblegum power-pop, but no detectable trace of punk. However, the band has clearly got the formula for crafting what the mainstream unfortunately labels as pop-punk down pat.

First, lay down some vocals with a sing-along, anthemic chorus and

punch out some power chords to back everything up. Then, throw in some lyrics about relationships gone wrong and/or the trials and tribulations of being a teenager, for the sake of connecting with an angst-ridden audience. Finish off by synthesizing the crap out of everything else, and repeat. Throw in a couple wallowing love ballads (bonus points for cheesy guest stars like Taylor Swift,

who shows up on "Two is Better than One"), and declare the whole creation to be punk, or at least punk-influenced.

What? Every song has electric guitar in it, and all the band members take their gratuitously applied eyeliner and coiffed emo bangs very seriously. How much more punk can you get?

After all this, *Love Drunk* is so clichéd that it's actually tedious to listen to. All the songs are virtually indistinguishable from one another, and although there are a couple fun, catchy dance tracks, there really is only so much whining falsetto about being "17 and invincible" a person can take. Ultimately, Boys Like Girls' latest sugary pop concoction is just too sweet to be appetizing.



albumreview

Whitney Houston
I Look to You
Arista

CATHERINE CHUCK
Arts & Entertainment Writer

The queen of all big-voiced songstresses is back, but sadly not in true diva form. Her voice hasn't totally crapped out on her after years of substance abuse and a tumultuous marriage to Bobby Brown, but the same can't be said for her production crew. *I Look to You* takes a page out of R. Kelly's manual for generic R&B and the results aren't pretty.

The few successes on this mediocre

album tend to be the dance songs — especially the first track, "Million Dollar Bill," written and produced by Alicia Keys. It's a solid callback to days of Earth, Wind & Fire and it's a hopeful sign that the real Whitney Houston is back and ready to retake the throne from the likes of Beyonce and Jennifer Hudson. And she is — but not really.

She can still out-sing 80 per cent of the population and she sounds so

happy to be singing again that it tugs at the heart, but getting R. Kelly to produce her tracks — creating barf-inducing ballads instead of sultry guilty pleasures, and making her sound like Mariah Carey circa 2006 — overshadows it all. When you're copying the diva songstress who, a decade ago, was copying you, clearly something has gone terribly wrong.

But for many of Whitney's older fans (Hi Dad!), she'll likely sound as fierce as she did 10 years ago. The title track, "I Look to You," might very well cause middle-aged mothers and fathers to uniformly mortify their children by leaping off their sofas and weeping at the overwrought vocals and 10,000-piece orchestra.

Suffice it to say, the queen is back. It's just too bad her throne reigns over a mound of mediocrity.



albumreview

Classified
Self Explanatory
Sony

KATIE O'CONNOR
Arts & Entertainment Writer

"Is anybody listening? Ohh, no reply at all," Big Soxx, Classified's back-up singer sings on track eight. It doesn't surprise me though. At first listen this album seems more like another white rapper trying to be the next Eminem. With a closer listen though, there are several songs that stick out in the album as being quite catchy. The Nova Scotian MC, whose real name is Luke Boyd, created a well layered album with effective use of back tracks,

scratching, and an impressive lineup of fellow Canadian hip-hop artists including Choclaire, Maestro, Moka Only, and Saukrates.

Boyd captures the origins of hip-hop with his effective use of toasting in "Quit While You're Ahead," while "Where Are You" is a rap about the social injustices that he had faced when living on unemployment after being laid off and first pursuing his rap career. This track is probably

the most substantial of all, but I still find myself more impressed with Saukrates' performance rather than Boyd's.

Many of the tracks seem to be slightly egotistical, but really, what rapper isn't? Unlike good classified ads that are straight to the point and include only the most important information, this album lacks this brevity. With a whopping 22 tracks, you'd think that you're getting a bang for your buck; however only six tracks are actually worth listening to. Moderately addictive jems on *Self Explanatory* include: "Get Out The Way," "Quit While You're Ahead," "Anybody Listening," "Where Are You," "Breaking Up," and "Things Are Looking Up."

This is Classified's 13th album, as he so prominently raps, but unfortunately he can't quite escape the number's bad luck.

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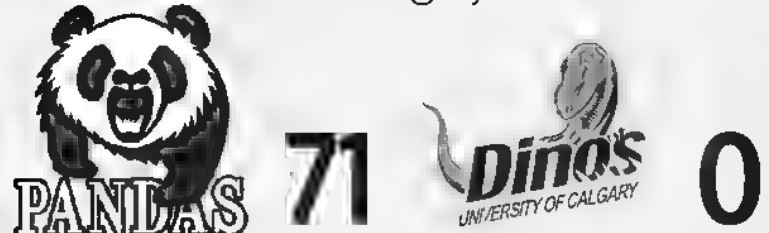
SEPTEMBER 25
at Victoria



SEPTEMBER 27
at UBC



OCTOBER 16
at Calgary



OCTOBER 16
at Lethbridge



FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23

Semi-final #1
Lethbridge vs. Victoria, 11 a.m.
Semi-final #2
Alberta vs. UBC, 1 p.m.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23

Bronze medal match, 11 a.m.
Championship final, 1 p.m.

Rugby ready to host Can-West's best

EVAN DAUM
Sports Editor

With the regular season now in the rearview mirror, the Pandas Rugby squad is ready for the games that matter most. Alberta will host the Canada West Championship this weekend, and after a 3-1 regular season, the squad will head into the competition as the number-two seed behind the defending Canada West and national champion Lethbridge Pronghorns.

For the Pandas, the action will be their first at home this season, after playing all four Canada West contests on the road. Alberta opened the season with three straight victories, earning wins over Victoria, UBC, and Calgary.

They closed out the regular season last weekend in southern Alberta against the number-one ranked team in the nation, and defending national champions from Lethbridge. The game was a stiff test for the Pandas, as they suffered their lone defeat of the regular season in a 22-7 loss to the Pronghorns.

"The girls played pretty well, I think they got a taste of what they need to do this weekend and it gives us something to build off of for this week," head coach Mark Parrish said of his team's effort against the 'Horns. "The big thing out of it was they realized they could win, and just need to play at their best to do that."

With the Pronghorns currently the pre-eminent program in CIS rugby, the game in Lethbridge had a different feel for Parrish than it had for so many years prior.

"It was a little weird this past weekend. I think it really was the first time I felt like the underdog. Even the last couple of years when Lethbridge has won, we beat them at this stage in the year and it didn't feel like we were the underdog, but this year we were."

Parrish and his side won't have to worry about the Pronghorns in their first match this weekend, as Lethbridge will meet fourth-place Victoria in one semi-final, while the Pandas will do battle with the UBC Thunderbirds in the other semi-final.

"UBC will play hard, but our advantage is that



FILE PHOTO/NATALIE RITOSA

TOP OF THE PILE The Pandas hope that their first home weekend of the season yields a CW title.

we know where they're at and we know we can beat them. The worrying part is that you don't want to look past them to Sunday's game."

With the T-Birds hosting the national tournament at the beginning of November in Vancouver, the Pandas will need nothing less than a Canada West title to claim the conference's other berth to nationals.

With five teams in the conference, the schedule worked out so that the Pandas didn't have a regular season home match, but instead gained the right to host the conference championships.

"There's definitely that home advantage and

we're hoping to be using that this weekend," Parrish pointed out.

The Pandas will also be looking to channel the winning tradition of the program and its five national titles when they welcome back nearly 75 alumni to celebrate the program's 10-year anniversary this weekend.

Alberta takes to the turf at 1 p.m. Friday in the second semifinal of the day, with the Canada West championship game getting underway at 1 p.m. Sunday afternoon, and all games go at the Strathcona Druids Rugby Park in Sherwood Park.

Ice Bears welcome struggling Huskies to town for hockey showdown

EVAN DAUM
Sports Editor

It's always a fierce rivalry on the ice when Alberta and Saskatchewan faceoff, but the Bears and Huskies rivalry will have a slightly different feel this weekend. Instead of battling for top spot in the conference, the Huskies will limp into the Drake in search of answers.

The Dogs enter the weekend series in the cellar of the Canada West standings with a record of 1-3-0, their lone victory coming last weekend at home against the Regina Cougars. The Bears on the other hand have been steady through their first four games, and sit two points behind Manitoba for first place, but have two games in hand on the Bisons.

Expectations were sky-high coming into the season for Saskatchewan, as head coach Dave Adolph brought in one of the best recruiting classes in his nearly two decades at the helm of the program. With several highly touted WHL grads, along with transfer student Kyle Ross from Regina (where he led that team in points last season) the Huskies seemed poised to be a major force this season.

"It's a little bit of a surprise. I think it's a little bit of an adjustment for them, but I know the skill level they have on the team and the quality of their coaching that it's the old saying 'it's just a matter of time,'" Bears head coach Eric Thurston explained.

The Huskies have struggled thus far on the road, going 0-3-0 away from the friendly confines of Rutherford Arena in Saskatoon, and will be in tough at Clare Drake where the Bears continue to flourish.

Alberta comes into the weekend after a bye week and will be well-rested and studied heading into the series against their perennial rivals.

"Guys have lots of exams, and everything that comes with that. The flu has lingered with some guys — it's given guys a chance to re-charge their batteries a bit and get ready for a tough weekend."

The Bears might be exactly what the doctor ordered for Saskatchewan, as the Green and Gold seem to always elevate the Huskies play.

"We bring out the best in each other and we have to make sure that we're not standing and scoreboard watching — we're coming out facing a very good U of S squad with a lot of guys our players have played against in the Western Hockey League, so they know the quality of their players."

Alberta has been dynamite on the power play through four games this season, going 11-for-31 — far and away the best in the conference.

Between the pipes, the Bears have gone with a two-man rotation through the first four games of the season, with second-year man Real Cyr splitting time with rookie Travis Yonkman, both being solid thus far.

"Both guys are playing well," Thurston pointed out. "We want them both to keep pushing each other and we'll wait and see what happens, who rises."

"I really like what they're bringing to the table right now and we could go with two the whole year, who knows."

Puck drop goes for both games Friday and Saturday night at 7:30 p.m. at Clare Drake Arena with the action also broadcast online at bears.ualberta.ca.



PETE YEE

TWO-HEADED STOPPER Head coach Eric Thurston has rotated both Real Cyr (top), and rookie Travis Yonkman (bottom) in between the pipes for the Golden Bears through four games this season.

Volleyball Pandas primed to open '09/10

NATHAN LIEWICKI
Sports Staff

Despite finishing with a mediocre 6-4 record in exhibition play, the Pandas volleyball team will be looking to up their play in time for this weekend's Canada West opener at home against the Calgary Dinos. The two provincial rivals partook in a trio of preseason battles, with the southern Albertans taking two of three from the Pandas.

"I think we are two pretty equal teams, but with very distinct styles. [Calgary] plays much more of a speed offence and we play more of a patient game with a higher offence," head coach Laurie Eisler noted. "One of the challenges for us will be to adjust to that pace, because they play at a different tempo."

Last Saturday, Alberta finished off their preseason schedule in Quebec City by dropping a highly competitive 3-2 decision to the host Laval Rouge et Or.

The Pandas finished the weekend tournament with a 1-2 mark, with their lone win coming against the same Rouge et Or team on Friday night. Still, even though they didn't win all their games and came out of the weekend with a disappointing defeat, head coach Laurie Eisler believed the trip out to Quebec was worth it.

"We played in front of a hostile crowd with drums and chants and the whole nine yards, so it was a great experience for our team to play in that context. In spite of the really challenging conditions we competed under, the team held up very well," Eisler said.

The Pandas will need a complete team effort if they're going to take down the Dinos. Calgary finished



FILE PHOTO/PETE YEE

READY, SET, BUMP Alberta faces the Calgary Dinos to start the regular season.

with the same 16-4 record as Alberta in conference play a season ago, but based on the differential between sets won and lost, the Pandas took home the regular season title.

Alberta was handed a devastating defeat, by the Dinos, however, in last season's Canada West bronze medal game as Calgary grabbed the conference's third and final berth to nationals on the Pandas home court.

"We are not the type of team that has dominant individuals, but rather a collective group needing to have a balanced offence that can come from anywhere on the court, as well as a balanced game in general," Eisler commented.

Ultimately, however, the Pandas need to be consistent during matches. Taking sizable leads and, in turn, coughing them up are tough pills to swallow.

Against Laval the Pandas were up 14-10 in the fifth set, but failed to pick up the victory. Nonetheless, the Pandas were picked apart in the fourth set, losing 25-10, but came back with a lot of heart in the deciding set.

"I think the strength of our team right now is probably resilience and that is really important in volleyball, as is the ability to wipe the slate clean. We have shown that this is a really strong characteristic of this group.

"It's hard to win in volleyball and as it was pointed out to me over the weekend, losing is hard too," Eisler chuckled.

The Pandas kick off their highly anticipated Canada West campaign against the Dinos this weekend, with action getting underway in the Main Gym at 6:30 p.m. on Friday and 8 p.m. on Saturday night.

THIS WEEK'S SPORTS FLOP



It's never good to be shutout, but how about being shutout 59-0 - and we're not talking CFL offensive shenanigans either. The New England Patriots put up a 59 point performance in the snow over the Tennessee Titans last weekend to push the Music City Boys to 0-6. If you have the writing prowess to make a 59-0 loss seem respectable, come by a sports meeting every Thursday at 4 p.m. on the third floor of SUB.

GATEWAY SPORTS!

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Olson hopes to kick his way to a million

EVAN DAUM
Sports Editor

Burgers, fries, and million dollar kicks — all things that come to mind when you think about Wendy's, all thanks to their wildly successful Kick for a Million promotion, now in its fifth season. One lucky University of Alberta student hopes that he'll become the next person to hit the jackpot this weekend when he heads to Toronto to compete for his chance to not only win the seven-figure sum, but also bring home several other big ticket items.

Steven Olson, a 25-year-old physics grad student will put his hopes of becoming a millionaire squarely on his kicking prowess when he goes head to head today against the eastern champion Paul Sinisi. The winner will move on to the final, which goes tomorrow night at halftime of the game between the Toronto Argonauts and Hamilton Tiger Cats at Rogers Centre, broadcast live coast to coast on TSN.

Olson, who made it to the semi-finals thanks to a clutch 30-yard boot on his final kick in the western quarterfinal this past weekend in Calgary, can't help but think about the possibility of cashing in all thanks to a 50-yard field goal.

"I couldn't help myself; I've thought about it a lot even though I shouldn't," Olson said.

An Edmonton native, Olson went south last weekend to face Murray Phillips in the west final of the contest, and was greeted by spats of boos from the Calgary crowd as they cheered on home-town contender Phillips. Olson



PETE YEE

KICKIN' IT FOR CASH Steven Olson hopes his leg can make him a millionaire.

was prepared for the heckles, as he had seen the same thing happen in the east final when the contestant from Hamilton received a similar welcome in Toronto the day before.

"I saw the video of the one in Ontario and they booed the guy who was from Hamilton, so the whole day I was dreading getting booed, but when it actually happened it felt kind of neat. It didn't bother me; I thought it would bother me a lot, but it didn't bother me at all. I was able to block it out."

Olson entered the contest 1,189 times online, and was in utter disbelief when he got the call that his name had been selected.

"The guy who called me, the first thing I asked him was if he was joking, and then I asked him that again, and then I asked him if he was serious — I just couldn't believe

I was that lucky."

Even though his allegiance lies with the Edmonton Eskimos, Olson had the help of Calgary Stampeders kicker Sandro DeAngelis last week prior to the contest in the Stampede City and has also had the help of a fellow U of A student, Golden Bears football kicker Hugh O'Neill — who booted a 50 yarder this past weekend against Regina.

"Hugh has been really helpful, and all the Bears are asking 'who's this guy with Hugh?', and they're all really excited for me, wishing me luck — it's been a really great experience."

If Olson advances to the final Friday night, he'll get kicks from the 20, 30, and 40 yard-lines for prizes ranging from \$20,000 in electronics to \$100,000 cash, and would then take his shot at \$1,000,000 from the 50 yard-line.

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Untouchable Tom needs to toughen up



The Peak (CUP)

CHAD
KLASSEN

Are we playing football or what? Well, apparently when Tom Brady's the quarterback, the NFL turns into a flag football league.

In fact, according to Terrell Suggs' nudge on the Patriots' pivot a couple of weeks ago, flag football might actually allow for more contact on quarterbacks than the NFL.

A year after Brady missed the entire season from an inadvertent hit to the knees by Bernard Pollard, the pocket around him is now an apparent "no-hit" zone.

The league has gone to the extreme in making sure nobody comes in contact with Brady's knee. Suggs, a linebacker for the Baltimore Ravens who was trying to make a play in a tight battle in Foxboro, was flagged 15 yards on a roughing the passer call after "bumping" into the three-time Super Bowl champion who's being treated like it. Baltimore's sideline was up in arms with the call — and for good reason; it extended a Patriot drive and resulted in a touchdown.

It's actually surprising the referees didn't call back Suggs' sack and strip in the third quarter, when he blind-sided Brady and forced a fumble for a Ravens touchdown.

Norwithstanding, the glaring issue with Suggs' (non-) hit is that football is designed to be a physical contact sport.

Athletes know exactly what they're

getting into when they sign up, with the excessive pounding and physicality that defines what the sport's all about.

Suffice it to say, then, when you see Brady tapped on the knee and referee Ron Winters throw a flag after Brady's best sell-job, it's pretty embarrassing. Just ask Ray Lewis.

A great quarterback, while indeed being a rare commodity, has to be able to stand up and take a hit, even if it's a low one. What does Brady expect? To be able to stand in the pocket for five seconds without fear of being touched? It's ridiculous, and we're starting to see, if we hadn't already before, the kind of prima donna Brady really is.

Athletes know exactly what they're getting into when they sign up — with the excessive pounding and physicality that defines what the sport's all about.

Rodney Harrison, an NBC analyst and a former teammate of Brady's, said it best on *Sunday Night Football*: "Horrible call. You can't make this call. And Tom Brady, if you're listening: toughen up."

It comes down to the integrity of the game; the call had a direct impact in the outcome of a critical early season AFC battle, which New England took 27-21 at home.

Suggs' penalty wasn't the lone bad call. The Pats were also the beneficiary

of another ridiculous roughing the passer penalty in the first half — both turning into 14 points.

It would be one thing if undisciplined penalties by the Ravens' defense, or turnovers offensively gave Brady second and third opportunities to score. But the Pats were given a free pass to march downfield and put up touchdowns.

It's clear that the league has taken Pollard's hit and gone too far in trying to protect its quarterbacks.

Certainly, it's important for any league to protect its star players, and quarterbacks are football's lifeblood. Pro Bowl players like Brady bring notoriety and attention, attracting season ticket holders and television viewers, which generate massive revenue for the networks that pay big dollars to air NFL games.

However, there's a big difference between implementing rules aimed to keep quarterbacks healthy and stretching the rules to the point where guys like Suggs are penalized for merely trying to do their job.

As it stands now, defensive players are pretty well deemed out of the play if they're driven into the ground by an offensive lineman and trying to take down the quarterback from their knees.

And the baffling part of it all is the fact Suggs made his best effort to dodge Brady, merely nudging his knee as he tried to avoid contact.

The NFL seriously has to re-evaluate its approach towards protecting its quarterbacks. The integrity of the game is undoubtedly more important than any Pro Bowl quarterback that's passed through the league. Brady is not above the NFL or the game of football. We can live without him.

sportsshots

Compiled by Matt Pretty

Bears Football

The football Bears (3-3) will play their last road game of the conference schedule when they head east to Saskatoon this weekend. Alberta will take on the number-five ranked University of Saskatchewan Huskies (5-1), who handled Manitoba 31-11 last Saturday. Alberta delivered the Huskies their lone loss of the season, with a 2/-/- decision at Foote Field last month.

Kickoff goes Friday night at 7 p.m. with an audio webcast available on bears.ualberta.ca.

Pandas Hockey

It'll be a battle of the undefeateds in Saskatoon this weekend as the number-three ranked puck Pandas (4-0) take on the ninth-ranked Saskatchewan Huskies (4-0). Leading the way for the Pandas are Tarin Podloski and Leah Copeland, who are tied atop the Canada West scoring list. Faceoff on Friday and Saturday night is at 6 p.m.

Pandas Soccer

Pandas soccer (6-2-2) will head to the coast this weekend for a very tough pair of matches. They'll face number-three ranked Trinity Western (9-1-0) on Friday night at 6 p.m. The Spartans are on top of the conference standings and will be looking to clinch first place this weekend. On Saturday, the Pandas play a critical game at UBC, as the T-Birds (4-2-4) are chasing Alberta in the standings. UBC has 16 points, while Alberta has 20 points and will need to gain at least a point to hold the T-Birds off for this weekend. Kickoff for Saturday's game is at 6 p.m.

Bears Soccer

The eighth-ranked soccer Bears play at the same two schools as the Pandas this weekend, needing points to have any hope of finishing first and hosting the Canada West Final Four. Luckily, their opponents are the two teams that they're chasing in the standings. Trinity Western (6-1-3) is also ranked third nationally on the men's side, while UBC (-3-0) is ranked seventh. Both teams have 21 points, two ahead of the Bears' 19. Alberta took a 1-0 victory over UBC and a 1-1 draw with TWU from the opening weekend at home, so these two matches should close. Kickoff goes Friday and Saturday night at 8:15 p.m.

Bears Basketball

Bears basketball continue their pre-season with the Guy Vetrie Memorial Tournament in Victoria. On Thursday night, they play the host Vikes at 9 p.m., before facing the defending national champion Carleton Ravens on Friday at 6 p.m. Alberta will wrap up the tournament with a game against the Fraser Valley Cascades on Saturday at 2 p.m.

Pandas Basketball

After ending Hoopfest with two home losses, the basketball Pandas will look to get back on track at the Metro Glebe tournament in Ottawa, hosted by Carleton. Alberta will start off against the Guelph Gryphons on Friday at 4 p.m., followed by a matchup with the Concordia Stingers on Saturday afternoon at 4 p.m. The Pandas' last tournament game will be against the host Ravens on Sunday at 12 p.m.

Wrestling

New head wrestling coach Owen Dawkins will take his team to their first event of the 2009/10 season as they travel to Calgary for the Dino Invitational.

The action will start at 11 a.m. Saturday morning.

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Volley-Bears ready for title defence

NATHAN LIEWICKI
Sports Staff

The top-ranked Alberta Golden Bears volleyball team will begin their quest for a third consecutive national title when they take the floor against their bitter provincial rivals from Calgary for a pair of weekend contests to open the Canada West season this weekend.

Coming off of four straight wins over American schools, including their Saturday evening duel with the Pac-10 Champion USC Trojans, the Bears will look to carry over their preseason momentum into conference play.

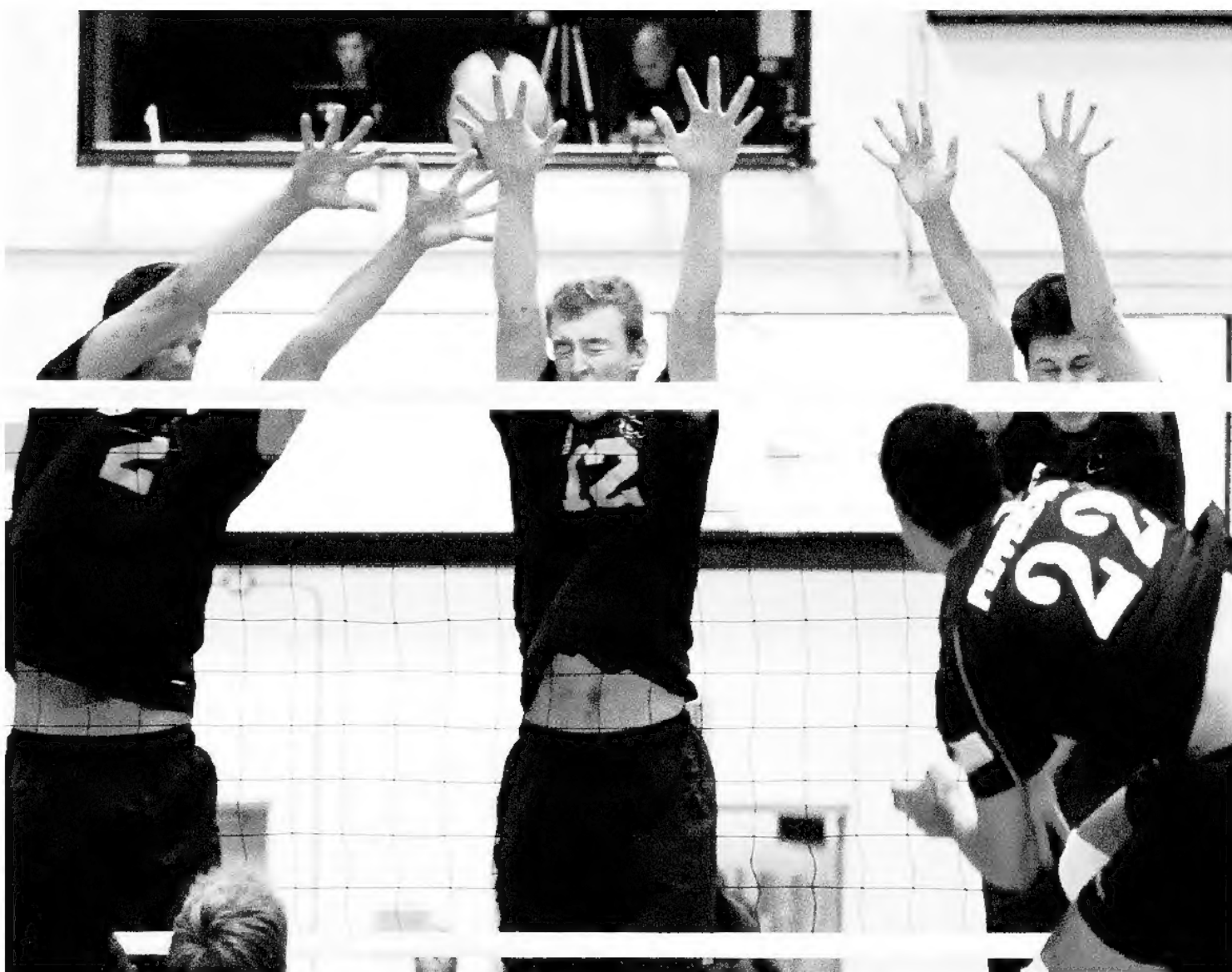
Alberta finished their exhibition schedule with an 11-0 mark and although their record may support the notion that they were untested, this wasn't the case. The Bears survived two intense five-set matches in the preseason, one of which was played against Calgary. As the champs, everyone will be gunning for the Bears in every match, including the Dinos.

"Calgary is on the verge of becoming a veteran team. They have the experience of some fifth-year players and they have good size, so they will present us with a formidable test this weekend," head coach Terry Danyluk commented.

Canada West is a tough conference, so going out and winning every night won't be that simple for the Bears. Therefore, Danyluk is trying to spark a fire inside his players to come out hungry and ready for action this weekend.

"In men's volleyball in Canada West, there are always five or six really good teams, so it's very hard for us not to get excited. If we aren't excited then we're missing the boat," Danyluk explained.

If the Bears are going to make it back



LISA LIN

EYE OPENER Justin Merta (centre) and Alberta hope to take a bite out of the Dinos.

to nationals to defend their title, they'll need to shore up their fundamentals. In addition, they have to mould some other things into place ahead of this weekend's games.

"Every guy on this team still needs to get better; we are not done improving," Danyluk pointed out. "Some guys are switching positions back and forth and are trying to get some stability and feel comfortable in [certain] areas."

At the Can-Am Challenge, fifth-year senior Thomas Jarnoc played outstanding en route to being named the tournament MVP, but the performance of this year's team will be based more around a team concept. Everyone will be expected to step up and contribute to a team with the highest of expectations.

"Thomas is a good player and a

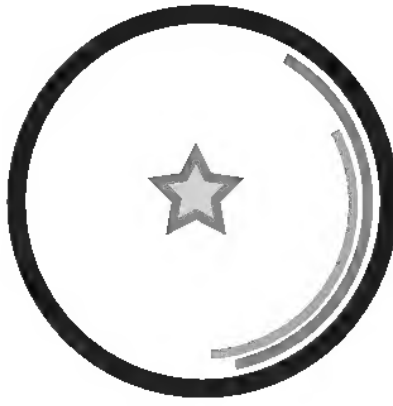
very good athlete, but there are a lot of guys who can carry different loads," Danyluk noted. "We had some guys, such as Tanner Nault, come off the bench on Saturday versus USC and do really good things."

Although the Bears are favourites to claim a third-straight national title, coach Danyluk doesn't like to talk about championships until the opportunity arises.

"In the end, you're either good enough, or you're not. In order to get good enough, there is a process that has to take place and that is the thing I am most concerned about."

The Bears will take the first two steps of that process against the Dinos when play begins at 8 p.m. on Friday and at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday at the Main Gym.

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Inch set to chase major league dream

EVAN DAUM
Sports Editor

Essays and exams are just a few of the things that come to mind when thinking about the life of a university student, but few have to think about their 91 m.p.h. fastball in between writing term papers and studying for those dreaded midterms. That's the reality of things for Philadelphia Phillies draft choice and U of A undergrad Steven Inch, who was selected in the sixth round of this year's MLB first-year player draft back in June.

Inch, an Edmonton native, gained attention from pro scouts in large part thanks to his two years spent at the Vauxhall Academy of Baseball in Vauxhall, Alberta — a town of roughly 1,000 people in Southern Alberta.

"It was the best two years of my life," Inch said, who moved away from home at the age of 16 to attend Vauxhall, where he finished high school.

After initially committing to attend the University of Kentucky in the storied Southeastern Conference to play Division I baseball, Inch was drafted by the Phillies and then had the decision of whether to sign with the organization or go to Kentucky and play NCAA baseball with the Wildcats.

"I wasn't expecting to go as high as I did. I didn't know if I was going to be drafted or not, but I was pretty confident that I wanted to go to school. University seemed like something I really wanted to do, and to be a part of SEC athletics was a pretty big deal to me," Inch explained.

A veteran of both Team Alberta



LAKELAND LOCAL

EDMONTON ACE Inch will be looking to impress at spring training come March.

and Team Canada at various tournaments, Inch has been guided in his baseball career by his older brother Kevin, whose love for the game has been infectious.

"I don't think I would have liked baseball if it wasn't for him. When he was about 12, he found reasons why he loved baseball, and I've always pretty much followed him in everything that I've done."

The 6-4 right-hander will be taking classes in the fall semester while continuing his training regimen before heading off to spring training next March in Florida, when he reports to the Phillies.

"It's interesting balancing two full jobs with school and training for professional baseball," Inch remarked.

With his first spring training on the horizon, the excitement is already

building for the chance to work on his baseball career full time.

"I am really excited to spend a full year, and kind of see what I can actually accomplish," Inch said. "Work ethic for me is a big thing — I don't think I'd be where I am if Vauxhall hadn't given me the work ethic to do well. I am competing against every guy on my team and to be able to compare that and see what I can do, and how high I can go."

Inch is enjoying his time back in the City of Champions, as he gears up for his first spring training camp in just over four months' time.

"It's been really good to be able to get back with a lot of the people I associated with [before]. I didn't expect to be living at home really for the rest of my life — to be back with the family is a shock, but a nice one."

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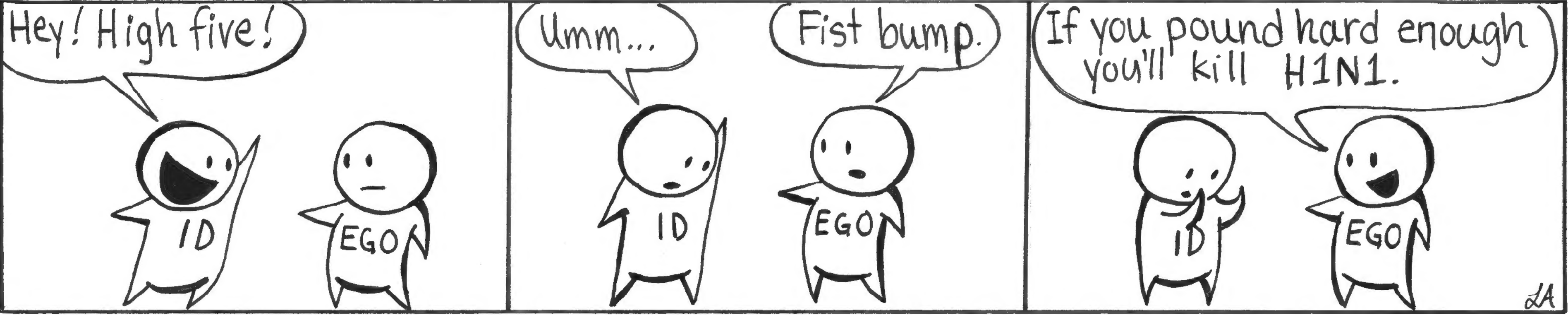
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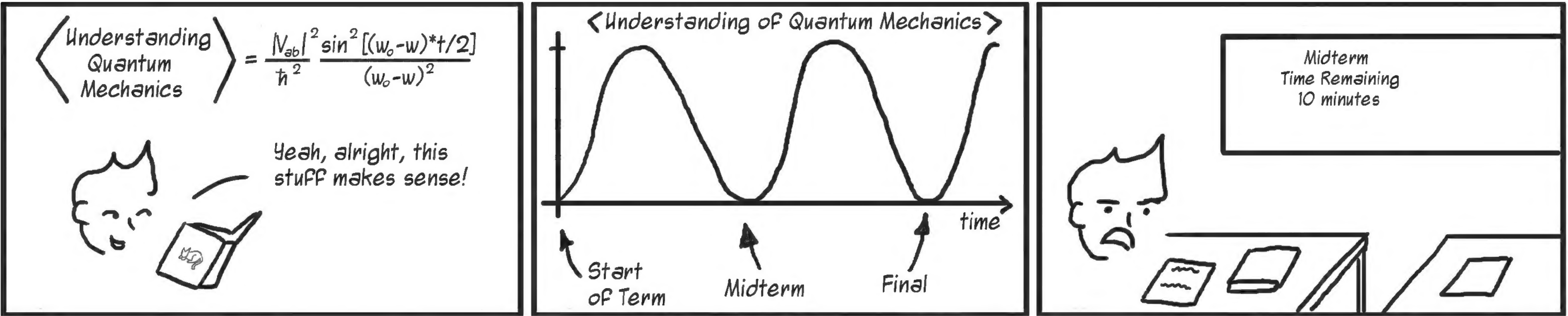
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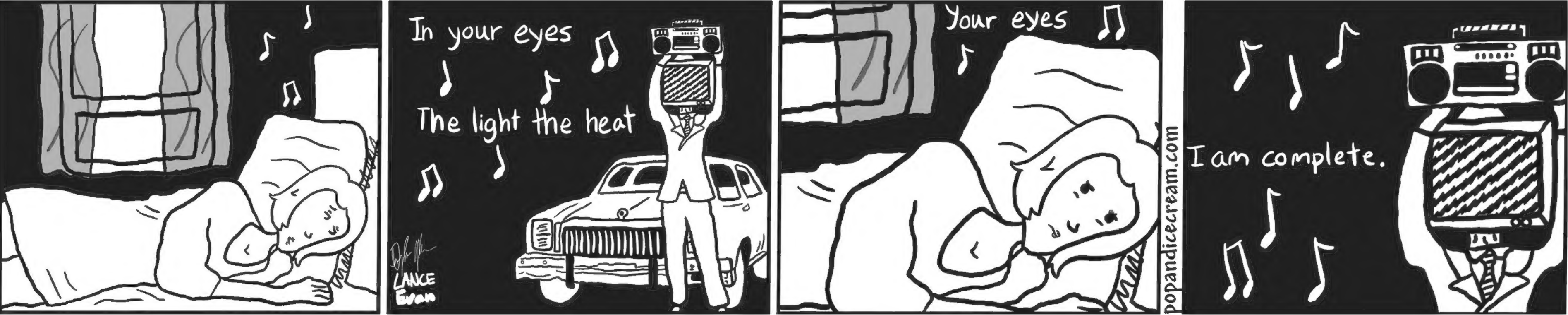
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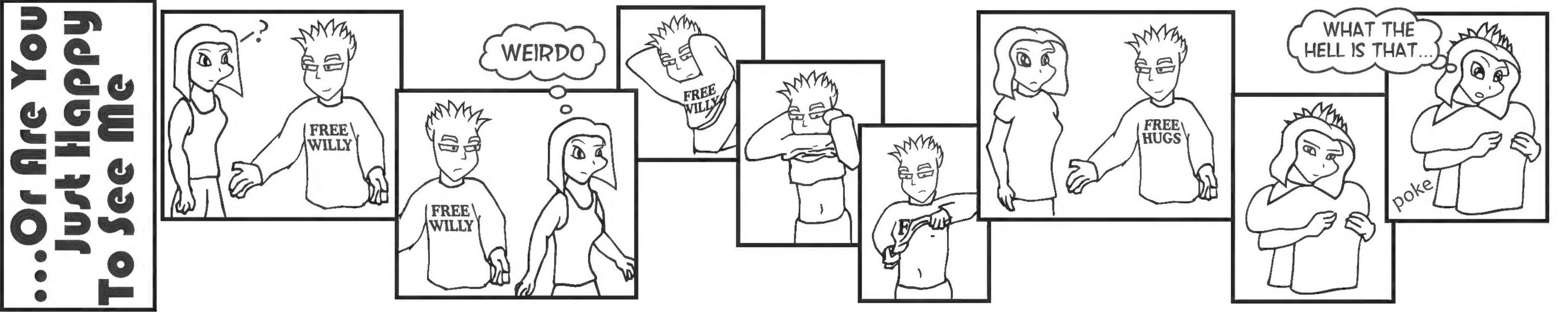
TV HEAD: A LOVE STORY by Lance Mudryk and Douglas Johnson



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astronowatch
by Kati Kovacs

My friends, I am a meteorite-hunting ninja. In the past year I have quadrupled my collection. Not from buying them online with some shady eBay transaction, mind you, but from hunting and gathering them in real-life sample-return missions.

This past weekend was a particularly successful expedition. After driving (hungover) up to Whitecourt we hiked and quaded (hungover) up to the 36-metre Whitecourt crater. It was my first time seeing a real-live meteorite crater, and it was fantastic. After finding it, we whipped out our GPS, made sure we were not going to be collecting within the protected zone, and got down to business. About six hours later, our team of five had collected 17 meteorites. Astronoboy and I now have four and

a half iron meteorites to call our very own.

Speaking of meteorites, there's a shower going on at this very moment. The faint Orionid meteor shower peaked this morning, but if you're lucky, and in a very dark spot, you might be able to catch a few stragglers. Find Orion in the south-east before dawn and watch for the flying space rocks.

AstronoWatch is a weekly feature that covers the goings-on in the night skies, the galaxy, and sometimes even Kati's personal life. Keep up with Astronowatch online at thegatewayonline.ca/astronowatch or check out the FABservatory's site at www.phys.ualberta.ca/observatory

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Karma Tashi Ling Tibetan Buddhist Meditation Society welcomes you back to campus. Buddhist practice Weds. and Suns, meditation instruction. Thurs, Oct. 15 to Nov. 26, 7:00 pm, resident teacher, Lama Ani Kunsang offers Buddhism for Beginners.

Come anytime. For more information visit www.karmatashiling.ca

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